

NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA

- Meeting Date:** Friday, June 3, 2022 9:00 AM
- Meeting Title:** State Board of Education Meeting Notification and Agenda
- Location:** Nebraska Innovation Campus
Banquet Hall
2021 Transformation Drive
Lincoln, NE 68508
- Web Streaming:** Live web streaming will be available through the State Board of Education website: www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/
- Agenda:** Except for emergency items added at the time of the meeting, the agenda will not be changed less than 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting and any changes will be immediately posted on the website. The Board will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to take action on any of the items listed.
- Interpreter:** If you need interpreter services or other reasonable accommodations, please contact the Nebraska Department of Education at (402) 471-5059 five (5) days prior to the meeting to coordinate arrangements.
- Website:** An electronic version of the agenda and support materials are available on the State Board of Education's Agenda page: www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html
- Lunch:** On Friday, June 3, 2022, if necessary, the State Board of Education may break for lunch at 12:30 p.m. The Board may resume work on the agenda at approximately 1:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER (The Board will take a 45-minute recess at or after 12:00 p.m.)
President Koch Johns
 - 1.1. Roll Call
President Koch Johns
 - 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance
President Koch Johns
 - 1.3. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information
President Koch Johns
 - 1.4. Meeting Protocol
Commissioner Blomstedt
2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS
President Koch Johns

- 2.1. High Plains Community Schools Presentation
High Plains Community Schools Administration
- 2.2. Provide an update and share a story of the impact of ESSER fund investments
3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT
Commissioner Blomstedt
 - 3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process
Commissioner Blomstedt
 - 3.1.A. Commissioner's recommendations and items to be removed from consent agenda
Commissioner Blomstedt
 - 3.2. Board Operations Information
Ryan Foor
4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT
President Koch Johns
5. CONSENT AGENDA
President Koch Johns
 - 5.1. Board Member Out-of-State Travel Approval
 - 5.2. Committee Appointments
 - 5.2.A. Approve the re-appointment of Dr. Jeff Rippe, Superintendent of Bellevue Public Schools as a representative on the State Council of Educational Opportunity for Military Children
Deputy Commissioner Brian Halstead
 - 5.3. Contract Approvals
 - 5.3.A. Authorize the Commissioner to approve IT contract with Jim Williams/Amatus LLC, for the Disability Determinations Section
Krysti Michl
 - 5.3.B. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to contract with Medical Consultants for the Disability Determinations Section
Krysti Michl
 - 5.3.C. Authorize the Commissioner to amend the current contract with Rivet Education
Cory Epler

- 5.3.D. Authorize the Commissioner to renew a contract with Educational Service Unit 13 for two years in a shared employee contract arrangement to fulfill services as an Educator Effectiveness Specialist
Shirley Vargas
- 5.3.E. Authorize the Commissioner to renew a contract with ESU 9 for assistance with implementation of the Nebraska State Plan for Education of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
Amy Rhone
- 5.3.F. Authorize the Commissioner to renew a contract with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of providing leadership, management, and organizational support for youth and young adult tobacco initiatives
Zainab Rida and Jessie Coffey
- 5.3.G. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to contract with Utah State University, The Center for Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE)
Amy Rhone
- 5.3.H. Authorize Commissioner to renew a contract with University of Nebraska Medical Center – Munroe Meyer Institute’s division of Education and Child Development
Amy Rhone and Amy Bunnell
- 5.3.I. Authorize the Commissioner the authority to contract with Boys Town, USA to continue as the communications center for the LB 322 School Safety and Security Reporting System Act, specifically Safe2HelpNE
Zainab Rida
- 5.3.J. Authorize the Commissioner the to renew a contract with National Student Clearinghouse for access to data from the StudentTracker
Kristin Yates
- 5.3.K. Authorize the Commissioner to approve a continuation contract with Traci Strazdas
Melody Hobson

5.4. Grant Approvals

- 5.4.A. Authorize the Commissioner to approve a continuation grant to the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NeAEYC) for the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarship program
Melody Hobson
- 5.4.B. Authorize the Commissioner to renew grant funds to the entity listed in the attached document in the provision of federally required IDEA Part C duties

Amy Bunnell and Amy Rhone

5.5. Lease Approvals

- 5.5.A. Authorize the Commissioner to enter into a revised lease agreement between the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division, and the Department of Education, Nebraska VR/Assistive Technology Partnership, for office space in Lincoln, Nebraska for the period of 7/1/22 through 12/31/22
Bryce Wilson and Lindy Foley
- 5.5.B. Authorize the Commissioner to enter into a revised lease agreement between the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division, and the Department of Education, Nebraska VR, for office space in Grand Island, Nebraska for the period of 7/1/22 through 6/30/32
Bryce Wilson and Lindy Foley
- 5.5.C. Authorize the Commissioner to enter into a lease agreement between the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division, and the Department of Education, Nebraska VR/Assistive Technology Partnership, for storage space in Lincoln, Nebraska for the period of 8/1/2022 through 7/31/2027
Tobias Orr and Lindy Foley

5.6. Minutes of the Previous State Board of Education Meeting

5.7. Miscellaneous Approvals

- 5.7.A. Adopt the Prepared Order to Adjust the Boundaries for Educational Service Units No. 6 and 18
Deputy Commissioner Halstead
- 5.7.B. Grant conditional approval under Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools, for the following applicant nonpublic school to add Kindergarten in the 2022-2023 school year
Brad Dirksen and Micki Charf
- 5.7.C. Approve accreditation for schools appearing on the accompanying list for the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 10, (92 NAC 10), Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools
Brad Dirksen and Micki Charf
- 5.7.D. Approve Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Leigh Community Schools
Melody Hobson
- 5.7.E. Approve Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Wheeler Central Public Schools
Melody Hobson

- 5.7.F. Authorize the Commissioner to approve Nebraska Educator Preparation Programs
Kelly Heineke
- 5.7.G. Authorize the Commissioner to pay annual dues for National Association of State Board of Education (NASBE); Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and Collaborative Groups; and Education Commission of the States (ECS) [reviewed by the Budget and Finance Committee]
President Koch Johns
- 5.7.H. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Network Projects
Amy Rhone and Kris Elmshaeuser
- 5.7.I. Authorize the Commissioner to continue funding the Early Childhood MTSS Regional Facilitators
Amy Rhone and Amy Bunnell
- 5.7.J. Authorize Commissioner to continue to fund ESU 1 for NeMTSS State Leadership Position of NeMTSS State Coordinator
Amy Rhone
- 5.7.K. Authorize the Commissioner to enter into an Interagency Agreement between the Nebraska-Department of Health and Human Services/ServeNebraska
Zainab Rida
- 5.7.L. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund NeMTSS Regional Lead for Educational Service Unit #1
Amy Rhone
- 5.7.M. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund a grant with Nebraska's Hands and Voices for the implementation of the Guide-By-Your-Side to support families with infants, toddlers, and students who are deaf or hard of hearing
Amy Rhone
- 5.7.N. Authorize the Commissioner to continue the Agreement between the Board of Regents (BOR), State of Iowa, on behalf of the Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD), and the Nebraska Department of Education to support Nebraska students who are identified as Deaf or Hard of Hearing
Amy Rhone
- 5.7.O. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Promoting Engagement and Knowledge Projects (PEaK)
Amy Rhone and Kelly Wojcik
- 5.7.P. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Para educator Self-Study Program

Amy Rhone

5.7.Q. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund Secondary Regional Transition Projects
Amy Rhone and Theresa Hayes

5.7.R. Authorize the Commissioner to enter into an agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to formalize collaboration between the DHHS and the NDE, and to authorize the NDE to oversee and administer the schools and education programs provided by the DHHS facility-based schools
Ryan Foor

5.7.S. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with individuals or entities yet to be named to fulfill the terms of the agreement for the DHHS facility-based schools and education programs
Ryan Foor

5.7.T. Appoint a Hearing Officer in NDE Case No. 22-15, *Fernau v. Commissioner*
Leslie Donley

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Koch Johns

6.1. Executive Committee
President Koch Johns

6.1.A. Action Item: Approve the employment agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt and his goals for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023
President Koch Johns

6.2. Budget and Finance Committee
Maureen Nickels

6.2.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

6.2.B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports

6.2.C. Action Item: Accept the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Audit
Bryce Wilson

6.2.D. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Educational Service Unit #10 (ESU 10) to provide support to the ATP Education Program
Tobias Orr and Lindy Foley

6.2.E. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Mary Phillips for services to prepare for, participate in, and/or facilitate IEP meetings under the direction of NDE

Amy Rhone

6.2.F. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with SPED Strategies to offer a yearlong professional learning series to support teaching and learning for students with disabilities

Shirley Vargas and Amy Rhone

6.2.G. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to purchase new and replacement computer equipment, software licenses and maintenance agreements, and other technology supports for the NDE

Tibor Moldovan

6.3. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Patti Gubbels

6.3.A. Action Item: Remove Schuyler Central High School from Priority School Designation

Shirley Vargas

6.3.B. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with one or more contractor(s) to be determined for services and support to Nebraska's Priority Schools for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Shirley Vargas

6.3.C. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with DRC for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023

Jeremy Heneger and Cory Epler

6.3.D. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with NWEA for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023

Jeremy Heneger and Cory Epler

6.4. Rules and Regulations Committee

6.4.A. Discussion Item: Report On Rules

6.4.B. Discussion Item: Bylaw B13, Rule Development

Ryan Foor

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

President Koch Johns

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Koch Johns

8.1. Public Comment

8.2. Written Public Comment

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

President Koch Johns

9.1. Provide information about vacancies on the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education
Kelly Heineke

9.2. Notification of Vacancies on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)
Amy Rhone

9.3. Contracts Approved by Commissioner

9.4. Grants Approved by Commissioner

9.5. Contested Case Update

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER

This section of the agenda is intended for Board members to offer informal observations of the work of the State Board. Board members may make brief announcements about attendance at future events for the purpose of informing other Board members. No business or motions, or suggested actions of the Board may be offered at this point in the agenda; nor should Board members engage in substantive discussion about other agenda items or introduce new agenda items.

President Koch Johns

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Koch Johns

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, August 5, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined. As needed, a work session will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2022 at a time to be determined.

The agenda contains a list of subjects known at the time of its distribution on May 26, 2022. A copy of the agenda reflecting any changes will be available for public inspection during the normal business hours in the Office of the Commissioner of Education and on the State Board of Education's Agenda

page: www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html. *Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda will not be changed later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting.*



High Plains Community Schools

Hordville*Polk*Clarks

Kim Beran- Superintendent

Bre Helgoth- PK-6 Elementary Principal



History of High Plains Community Schools

Formed in **July 2000**, High Plains Community Schools was created by the **merger** of the Clarks Public Schools & the Polk-Hordville Public Schools. The HPC school district is made up of students primarily from rural communities of Polk, Hordville, & Clarks in **5 counties**: Polk, Merrick, Nance, Hamilton & York counties. The elementary building (in Clarks) & the secondary building (in Polk) are separated by 12 miles.

Enrollment changes are largely reflective of demographic changes in the populations of Hordville, Polk, and Clarks (small rural towns with populations between 145-360). High Plains Community Schools have shown a fairly consistent enrollment trend over the past 9 years. Most class sizes range from 12-15 students each year with about 45% of the student population on **free and reduced meals**. Total enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year was about 240 students.

Even though we are a small school, we strive to provide a variety of opportunities for our students!



High Plains FFA Agronomic Field Study

Sponsored by:



820-743-7100

orthman.com



Innovative Experiences

High Plains Community elementary students have a variety of experiences in our PK-12th grade 1 to 1 technology environment.

Students experience the following:

- 3D printing
- Designing and sublimating mugs, plates, and t-shirts
- Coding and robotics
- Hands on STEM projects
- Science Fair research and presentations
- Trips to local history along with exploration centers



Students Showcasing their Learning!



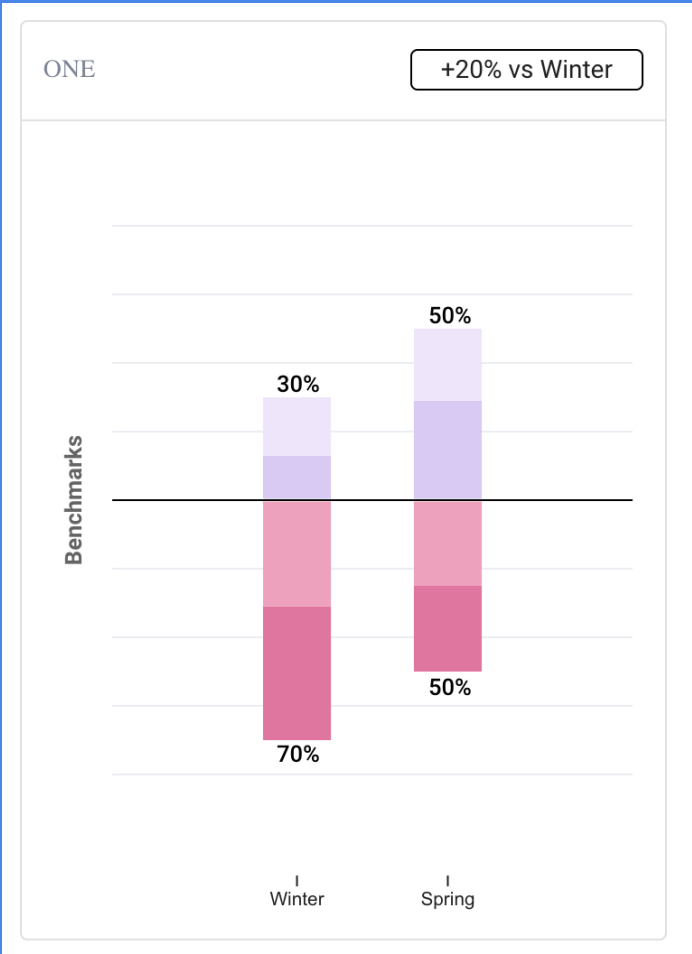


MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports)

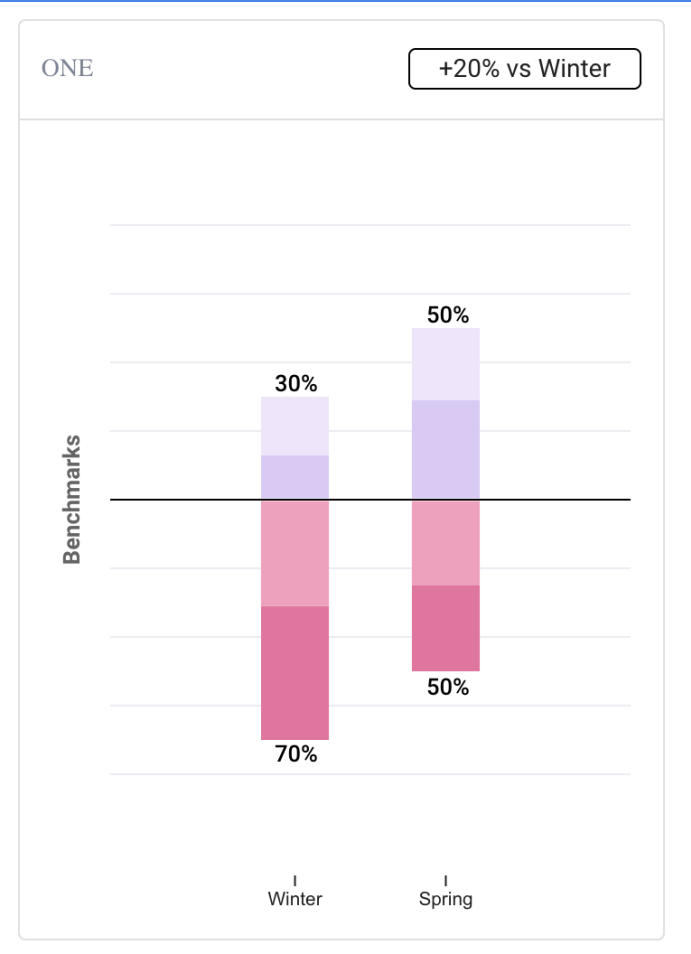
What is MTSS? Framework of **collaboration & communication** to support & prepare ALL students for success, including academic, social-emotional well-being, & behavioral needs.

How does HPC use the MTSS process? School-based teams (**shared leadership**) use data to guide decisions & problem solve collectively. A universal screener for Reading, Math, & SEBL is given 3 times a year as an identifier for students needing evidence-based supports. Progress monitoring is done throughout the year to assess student progress. The past 3 years have been a time of building capacity with professional development & implementing with fidelity.

How does HPC provide educational opportunities? Use high quality, standards-based curriculum (instructional materials), evidence-based interventions, assessments, & instructional practices. HPC focuses on Marzano instructional practices for quality instruction.



Growth in proficiency in 1st grade from winter to spring.



Growth as a district between winter and spring data.



PBIS- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports

Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Kind

At High Plains Community Schools, we strive to ensure that every child has a positive experience every day at school.

PBIS is a proactive framework to teach and reinforce positive behaviors that we model for our students to exhibit at school so they can be safe, respectful, responsible, and kind. Students and staff share clear and consistent expectations within settings that students will experience at school such as the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, crosswalks, and recess.

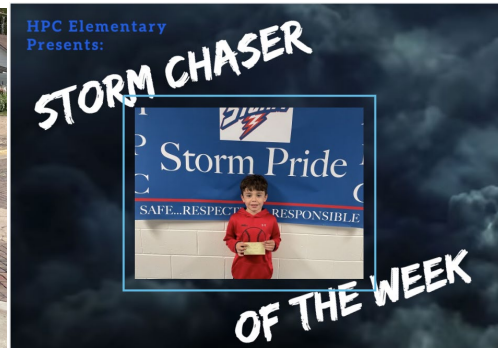
Assemblies

- W**atch quietly and respectfully
- A**lways be on time
- T**echnology and devices are off
- C**lean up area when leaving
- H**ave a positive attitude and participate



Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible,
Be Kind

Students Name _____ Teachers Name _____





Community Involvement:
Book Boosters
Community Coffees
Parent Breakfast
Fire Safety
Beef Boosters
Local Field Trips
Field Day



Student Assemblies
Staff Team Building
Mentoring Program
Weather Reports
Storm Chasers
Safety Patrol
Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally
FFA Barnyard Visits
Family Fridays

Building a Safe, Supportive, Collaborative School Culture

High Plains Community Schools Next Steps

- Build on what we have developed
 - Capacity building with relevant professional development, sharing a clear vision, building systematic approaches, developing teacher leaders, adopting high quality instructional materials & instruction
- Become Level 2 Marzano certified, effective instruction in every classroom
 - Setting goals for instructional practices, providing quality professional development, implementing data digs with collaborative discussions & problem solving, building strong relationships with students



Kindergarten - 3rd grade students visited the Lincoln Children's Zoo for their spring field trip.

**Every Student!
Every Day!
Every Way!**



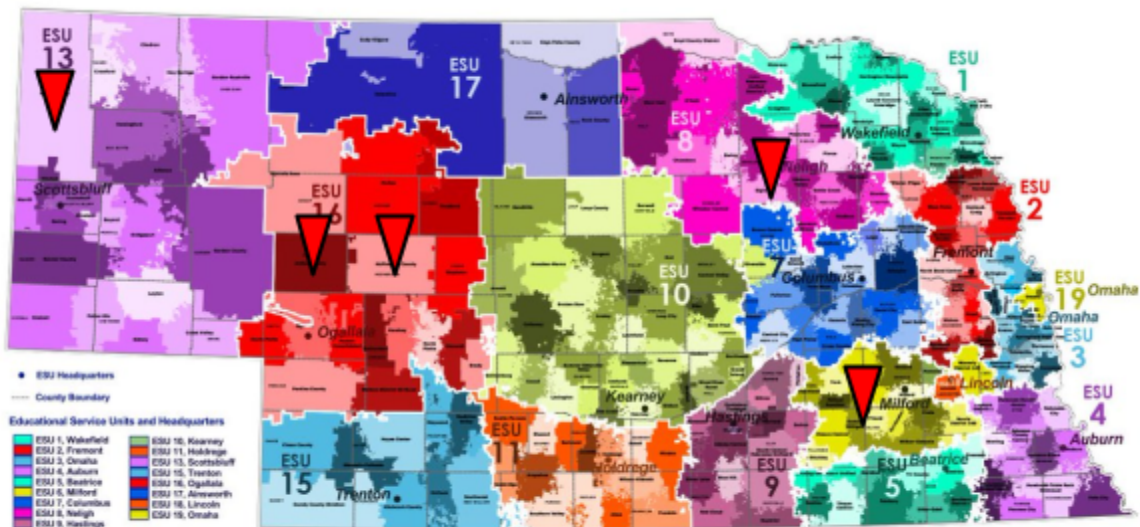


ESSER Impact: Allocations to Ineligible Schools

Across the three rounds of ESSER funds, public school districts were awarded an allocation based on their Title I, Part A allocations from the prior school year. Of the state’s 244 public school districts, there were five school districts that were ineligible to receive an ESSER allocation because they either did not receive Title I funds, had no school lunch program, or both.

In an effort to support all schools and the students they serve, the NDE allocated statewide ESSER II and ESSER III funds for these five districts (see table below). The allocations were determined based on comparable allocations to districts of similar size and demographic. These districts were asked to identify priorities based on the Nebraska Framework for School Renewal and Acceleration and completed applications to receive these funds.

	ESSER II	ESSER III	Total Allocation
McPherson County	\$37,065.00	\$83,175.00	\$120,240.00
Arthur County	\$37,065.00	\$83,175.00	\$120,240.00
Sioux County	\$37,065.00	\$83,175.00	\$120,240.00
Elgin	\$102,990.00	\$231,103.00	\$334,093.00
Exeter-Milligan	\$42,170.00	\$94,630.00	\$136,800.00





YOU HAVE THE POWER TO DO SOMETHING. SPEAK OUT.

Safe2HelpNE is a report system designed for students, staff, and parents to anonymously report concerning behavior which could impact the safety of students or schools across Nebraska.

Reportable behaviors could include but are not limited to:

- School threats
- Bullying
- Suicide concern
- Crime
- Domestic violence
- Abuse
- A friend's physical or mental health

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SIGNING
YOUR SCHOOL UP FOR SAFE2HELPNE, CONTACT:

Jolene Palmer, Ph.D., Director, School Safety and Security
Jolene.palmer@nebraska.gov 402.471.2944

HOW TO MAKE A REPORT

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
Safe2HelpNE.com

CONTACT US VIA PHONE
833-980-SAFE (7233)

DOWNLOAD OUR APP



As a participating school, community partner,
or ambassador, you can help by spreading the word
and following us on social media:



@Safe2HelpNE



ANONYMOUS REPORT SYSTEM



ANONYMOUSLY REPORT SAFETY CONCERNS, ANYTIME

Safe2HelpNE.org | 833.980.SAFE (7233)

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN



+



SAFER SCHOOLS THROUGH SAFE2HELPNE

Report concerning behavior which could impact the safety of students or schools across Nebraska.



24/7 HELP FROM A REAL, LIVE PERSON

Call **833.980.SAFE (7233)** to get in touch with a crisis counselor.

Every report is received by a specially trained crisis counselor from Boys Town, ready to respond with help, caring and compassion. And they're available anytime, day or night, 365 days a year.



THREAT ASSESSMENT TEAM

Designed with guidance from the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, the threat assessment training is vital.

Who needs to be trained? The multi-disciplinary team should include:

- Administrator
- Law enforcement officer
- Mental health professional
- Two additional school staff members such as a counselor or teacher

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS

- 1 The team gathers information regarding reported or observed behavior to connect data, making sense of a concerning situation.
- 2 As a best practice, the entire team reviews the incident, to provide a comprehensive view of the situation.
- 3 Each team member provides a different viewpoint in the assessment. Using their knowledge of the student and day-to-day interactions, staff members can make an informed decision on how to handle the situation. The mental health professional looks at potential violence risks based on their behavioral health knowledge, and law enforcement evaluates risk based on their knowledge of criminal behavior.
- 4 The team determines what supports may be put into place to help and works to implement a solution as quickly as possible.

The goal of the team is to keep students, staff and parents safe by carefully observing and thoughtfully responding to concerning behavior before an incident occurs. Threat assessment training helps ensure each member of the team is prepared to respond if the need arises.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What schools can participate in Safe2HelpNE?

A: Any K-12 district (public or nonpublic) within the state of Nebraska.

Q: What is the cost to my school district?

A: There is no cost to any public or nonpublic K-12 school in Nebraska. After three years of operation, Safe2HelpNE will seek additional funding based on usage data.

Q: What are the steps my school will need to take to participate in Safe2HelpNE?

A: **Steps to implementing Safe2Help**

- 1 Identify members for your threat assessment team and attend basic threat assessment training.
- 2 Send an email indicating your school wants to participate in Safe2HelpNE to jolene.palmer@nebraska.gov.
- 3 Complete the online registration sent to the school contact.
- 4 Once registered, Boys Town will contact you to set up and complete team training for P3 platform (P3-electronic communication system between school and Boys Town).
- 5 Ensure all TA team members are trained in Basic TA and P3 (by 8/1/22 for 2022 participation).

Q: Why is the Threat Assessment Team Process required for schools to join Safe2HelpNE?

A: The threat assessment process is considered a prevention measure. Teams are trained to assess behaviors and risks associated with targeted violence using research-based guidance.

Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - June

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Trip Request</u> (i.e. 1st, 2nd, Other)
Lisa Fricke	(NONE)			
Jacquelyn Morrison	(NONE)			
Deborah Neary	(NONE)			
Kirk Penner	(NONE)			

Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - June

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Patsy Koch Johns	(NONE)		
Patti Gubbels	(NONE)		
Maureen Nickels	(NONE)		
Robin Stevens	(NONE)		



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 20, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Brian L. Halstead, Deputy Commissioner

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve the re-appointment of Dr. Jeff Rippe, Superintendent, Bellevue Public Schools, as a representative on the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, the State Board of Education is required to appoint a Superintendent of a school district having a high concentration of children of military families and a representative of a military installation located in Nebraska to serve on the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

Offutt Air Force Base is located within the boundaries of the Bellevue Public School District, and Bellevue Public Schools enrolls and educates the majority of students who have an active duty military parent covered by the Compact. Dr. Rippe was appointed for a three-year term by the State Board on August 9, 2019, has extensive knowledge of meeting the needs of students of military families, and Dr. Rippe has attended all meetings of the Council.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): JUNE, 2022

ESTIMATED COST: NA

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS: NA



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 17, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Krysti Michl, Administrator
Disability Determinations Section

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to approve IT contract with Jim Williams/Amatus LLC, for the Disability Determinations Section

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Department of Education, through its Disability Determinations Section (DDS), makes approximately 17,000 determinations a year on behalf of the Social Security Administration (SSA) regarding the eligibility of Nebraska residents for disability benefits under Social Security and Supplemental Security Income. The DDS uses an in-house case processing system that cannot be supported remotely from Baltimore. The DDS has a subcontract with Mr. Jim Williams/Amatus LLC to maintain this system while transitioning to a national case processing program.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June/2022

ESTIMATED COST: The rate of compensation is \$85.00 per hour. This rate is comparable with the rate paid to other IT contractors providing comparable services for the state. The total cost of the contract is \$55,000.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal-Social Security Administration
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: July, 2016



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 17, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Krysti Michl, Administrator
Disability Determinations Section

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to approve 2022-2023 medical consultant contracts for the Disability Determinations Section

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Department of Education, through its Disability Determinations Section, makes determinations on behalf of the Social Security Administration regarding the eligibility of Nebraska residents for disability benefits under Social Security and Supplemental Security Income. Federal law requires that a physician, psychologist or speech language pathologist must review each determination so that the medical aspects are adequately considered. In order to comply with federal requirements, DDS must arrange for adequate case analysis support from consultants in medicine, psychology, and speech and language pathology. All DDS medical consultants are required to have an active license with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

The itemizations listed below are based on our best estimates of the amount of time required for each specialty area for the period 7/1/2022 through 6/30/2023. Variations in the caseload mix may require adjustments in hours between categories, and it is likely that the total amount to be paid for all contracts will be less than the total amount requested, dependent upon workloads and/or consultant availability. These contracts are funded 100% with Federal dollars.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June/2022

ESTIMATED COST:

The proposed rate of compensation is \$90.00 per hour for each medical and psychological consultant, with the exception of speech pathologist Terri Vontz, SLP, for whom the rate is \$59.50 per hour. These rates are a 4% increase. The rates are comparable with the rates paid to consultants in the DDS offices in surrounding states.

Lee Branham, III, Ph.D.	\$94,600.00
Rebecca Braymen, Ph.D.	\$141,400.00
Daniel Cronk, M.D.	\$188,200.00
Steven Higgins, M.D.	\$132,040.00
Nancy Ingham, M.D.	\$47,800.00
Thomas O. Martin, M.D.	\$108,640.00
Helen Montoya, Ph.D.	\$57,160.00
Patricia M. Newman, Ph.D.	\$188,200.00
Alexandra F. Suslow-Geditz, M.D.	\$155,440.00
Jerry W. Tanner, M.D.	\$169,480.00
Terri Vontz, M.S., CCC-SLP	\$41,222.00
Joanell K. Wheeler, M.D.	\$132,040.00
Total	\$1,456,222.00

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal-Social Security Administration

- New or Renewal: Renewal

- If renewal, date of first approval:

Lee Branham, III, Ph.D.	03/01/1986
Child and Family Services, P.C. (Rebecca Braymen, Ph.D.)	01/15/1991
Daniel Cronk, M.D., P.C. (Daniel R. Cronk, M.D.)	07/13/2015
Steven Higgins, M.D.	08/14/2008
NHI, LLC (Nancy Ingham, M.D.)	07/13/2015
Thomas O. Martin, M.D.	04/17/2019
Helen Montoya, Ph.D., P.C. (Helen Montoya, Ph.D.)	09/13/2004
Patricia M. Newman, Ph.D. Consulting, LLC (Patricia M. Newman, Ph.D.)	01/05/2004
Alexandra F. Suslow-Geditz, M.D.	07/14/2014
Jerry W. Tanner, M.D., P.C. (Jerry Tanner, M.D.)	06/19/2006
Terri Vontz, M.S., CCC-SLP	09/10/2001
Joanell K. Wheeler, M.D.	04/30/2012



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 9, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Cory Epler, Ph.D.
Academic Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to amend the current contract with Rivet Education.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In their current contract, Rivet Education is developing an overarching strategy for teachers and school leaders, including a professional learning scope and sequence, that supports the exploration of Nebraska's revised standards for English Language Arts (ELA). Additionally, Rivet Education is building out the educator-facing trainings based on the scope and sequence developed. This includes the materials for four, turn-key sessions that support exploration of the revised ELA standards. Rivet Education will follow a similar process to build out professional learning resources to support exploration of Nebraska's revised standards for mathematics. With this amendment, Rivet Education will develop the content and materials for ESU-facing sessions that equip ESU staff developers to facilitate the educator-facing sessions.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: Contract is amended not to exceed \$184,090 (from current contract amount of \$139,090)

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal Funds (Title IIA)
- New or Renewal: Contract Amendment
- If renewal, date of first approval: October 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 9, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Dr. Shirley Vargas and Dr. Kim Snyder

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner authority to contract with Educational Service Unit 13 for two years in a shared employee contract arrangement to fulfill services as an Educator Effectiveness Specialist.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: With the changing landscape in educational roles and responsibilities, courageous and necessary shifts toward consistency in expectations within Nebraska will translate to equitable opportunities for each student. In order to develop and implement an educator effectiveness system to reflect this work, we are requesting the Commissioner have the ability to continue to contract with ESU 13 to provide an ESU 13 employee with necessary credentials, experience, and expertise to fulfill services for NDE as an Educator Effectiveness Specialist while remaining an ESU 13 employee. This employee will support the development, implementation, and improvement of Nebraska's educator effectiveness system.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: Up to \$163,980.40

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Title 2A 3% set aside
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: August 6, 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 17, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize Commissioner to renew contract with ESU 9 for assistance with implementation of the Nebraska State Plan for Education of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Contractor will provide the services of a full-time staff member to assist NDE with carrying out the state role specified in the State Plan: “Guiding Principles for All Programs Serving Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.” Services to be provided by the Contractor will continue to include but not be limited to representing NDE as the liaison to the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Regional Network (four regional programs), Iowa School for the Deaf, and training programs for educational sign language interpreters. Additionally, Contractor will serve as a resource for parents and programs providing services to children/youth who are deaf or hard of hearing in Nebraska and continue to represent NDE at state, regional, and national deaf/hard of hearing meetings. Contractor has successfully carried out similar duties on previous contracts. Contract continues to include costs for some activities (interpreter training/mentoring/workshops, etc.) previously provided by other entities. Funding is contingent upon the earmarked State General Fund appropriation specific to serving deaf or hard of hearing students.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$220,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: State General Funds (Program 401)
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: Started in 2007, last approved in 2020



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 19, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.
Administrator Office of Coordinated School Student Support & Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of providing leadership, management, and organizational support for youth and young adult tobacco initiatives.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Nebraska Department of Education will partner with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on a three-year agreement, self-renewing yearly based on available federal funding. This Agreement may be renewed for three (3) additional one (1) year periods as mutually agreed upon in writing by the parties. Funding will allow the NDE to support a fulltime position to manage and coordinate youth tobacco prevention programs and resources as part of Office of Coordinated Student Support Services to support the goals of the DHHS tobacco prevention program to educate youth on tobacco prevention efforts. This position is also responsible for assisting with the development of grant activities and leading implementation to assure all program goals and objectives are met. Funding for this position is through one federal grant from the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$314,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal- Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) National and State Tobacco Control Program to DHHS
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: October 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to contract with Utah State University, The Center for Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE)

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: For over 30 years, the Center for Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) has been the technical assistance division of the Center for Persons with Disabilities. TAESE provides a variety of services such as event planning, training, and education-focused consultation. TAESE is the organization that administers the Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center, the TASK12 education interpreter training and certification program, and the national Dispute Resolution Consortium, which can only be gained through the contracted services provided by TAESE at this time. TAESE also provides a variety of other State and federal contracts and technical assistance agreements that are provided to numerous other states.

See attached supplemental material outlining specific activities included in the contract.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$288,536.60

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: General Funds (Program 401); Federal IDEA Part B and C
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: September 2018



Special Education Technical Assistance Contract Proposal

**Between the Nebraska Department of Education and
The Center for Technical Assistance for Excellence in
Special Education on behalf of Utah State University
(TAESE/USU)**

July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023

Contract Activities

1. Tri-State Special Education Law Conference
2. Dispute Resolution Training and Professional Development Workgroups
3. Support for Nebraska Related Special Education Training Activities
4. TASK12 - Training and Assessment Systems for K-12 Educational Sign Language Interpreters
5. TASK12 Mentoring for Sign Language Interpreters
6. Jobs Alike Workgroup – Low Incidence
7. Complaint Investigator Training, Mentoring, and Consultation
8. Facilitated Individual Education Program (IEP) Assistance and Mediation Training
9. Dispute Resolution Personnel Training and Mentoring
10. School District Special Education Director General Supervision Webinars
11. Specialized and Customized Professional Development (PD) and Technical Assistance (TA)

The following pages contain more specific information on the contract activities listed above. Included is an estimated amount of funding for each activity.

1. [Tri-State Special Education Law Conference \(IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300 Subpart E\) \(In Person 2022 \)](#)

- a. **Goal:** School district directors, school district attorneys, and State Education Agency (SEA) staff will better understand special education procedural safeguards and legal issues.
- b. **Activities:**
 - i. The Center for Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) will assist the Tri-State planning committee to plan and implement the 2022 Tri-State Special Education Law Conference and pre-session for special education complaint investigators. The planning committee consists of representatives from Nebraska, Iowa, and Kansas.
 - ii. TAESE will work with the planning committee, contact the conference presenters, make travel arrangements, communicate with the hotel and establish a contract, prepare conference materials, assist with preparing the agenda/conference materials, provide onsite assistance during the conference, and conduct a conference evaluation.
 - iii. TAESE will coordinate a process allowing for each of the three participating States to pay their portion of the conference costs after registration fees are applied and deducted.
 - iv. Plan and implement a pre-conference complaint investigation training.
 - v. Conduct a Partners Meeting during the conference.
- c. **Outcomes:** Nebraska will have a quality opportunity for local administrators, complaint investigators, school district attorneys, and SEA staff to learn up-to-date information about special education legal issues.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$32,000.00**

2. [Dispute Resolution Training and Professional Development Workgroups \(IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300 Subpart E\)](#)

- a. **Goal:** Nebraska staff and dispute resolution contractors will participate in quarterly Special Education Dispute Resolution Workgroup conference calls.
- b. **Activities:**
 - i. Four mediation conference calls each year.
 - ii. Four complaint investigation conference calls each year.
 - iii. Four due process hearing officer conference calls each year.
 - iv. Four IEP facilitation conference calls each year.
 - v. As needed, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) will submit dispute resolution questions to TAESE.

- c. **Outcomes:**
 - i. Dispute resolution contractors and SEA staff will receive ongoing professional development opportunities.
 - ii. Nebraska will have more effective systems of special education mediations, complaint investigations, due process hearings, and IEP facilitations.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$12,000.00**

3. Support for Nebraska Related Special Education Training Activities (IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300 Subpart B & C)

- a. **Goals:** As requested, TAESE will assist the Nebraska Special Education Office on a variety of special education training and professional development activities related to their general supervision responsibilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). TAESE will also assist with a variety of other SEA meetings specified by the State Special Education Director.
- b. **Activities:**
 - i. Assist with planning these trainings and activities by arranging for meeting locations, venue support, meal support, and other logistics as needed.
 - ii. Include the annual State Special Education Monitoring Meeting and other necessary meetings relating to Results Driven Accountability (RDA).
 - iii. Examples of trainings and activities could include:
 - Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Stakeholder’s Conversation.
 - Nebraska Department of Education/Routines Based Interview (NDE/RBI) Technical Assistance (TA) Provider Meeting.
 - RDA Stakeholder Meeting.
- c. **Outcomes:**
 - i. The SEA will be able to offer participants more appropriate settings to conduct meetings to help participants work more effectively in groups.
 - ii. The SEA will have the necessary support for logistics and planning to help trainings and activities be more efficient and to increase positive outcomes for various stakeholder meetings.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$40,000.00**

4. TASK12 – Training and Assessment Systems for K-12 Educational Sign Language Interpreters (IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300.18 and 300.34)

a. **Goals:**

- i. Provide oversight to the overall TASK12 Project, budget, and Advisory Board.
- ii. Administer the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) for educational sign language interpreters to improve their services for children and youth who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- iii. Provide comprehensive State reports from assessment data.
- iv. Provide access to training modules for educational sign language interpreters.

b. **Activities and Deliverables:**

- i. TASK12 will provide networking and support to elevate the quality of services being provided by sign language interpreters in K-12 settings. Each member State has a representative who serves on the TASK12 Advisory Board to provide guidance and direction for the TASK12 project. The TASK12 project will administer assessments for K-12 educational sign language interpreters at a location in Nebraska.
- ii. TASK12 staff will collect and save data from the assessment results as measured by the Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (EIPA) of the Boys Town National Research Hospital. This data will be used to create and submit comprehensive reports which help States target the necessary supervision, intervention, support, and training for their interpreters.
- iii. The Advisory Board will meet annually to receive reports on TASK12 activities and provide recommendations for improvements.
- iv. TASK12 will provide access to all available, self-directed, online, training modules for K-12 educational sign language interpreters Statewide during this contract period.

c. **Project Activities:**

- i. TASK12 staff will work under the direction of the appointed State Special Education Services (SES) staff member.
- ii. TAESE will facilitate assessments for all interested educational interpreters from Local Education Agencies (LEAs) Statewide.
- iii. TAESE will provide the SES a comprehensive report of data collected from all the Nebraska assessment results.
- iv. TAESE will coordinate and conduct an annual TASK12 Advisory Board meeting where members can provide recommendations of improvement and growth for the TASK12 project. TASK12 staff will report on related project data and activities to the Advisory Board during the meeting. Each member

State will be represented at the Advisory Board meeting by a person of their choice.

- v. Maintain and facilitate a TASK12 Advisory Board listserv for the purpose of ongoing communication among Board members.
- vi. TAESE will coordinate and oversee activities related to assessment registration, data collection, assessment administration, State reporting, and the Advisory Board.
- vii. TAESE will provide access to all available self-directed online training modules for K-12 educational sign language interpreters Statewide with the option to earn continuing education credit.

d. Outcomes:

- i. Interpreters will have the opportunity to take the EIPA for their skills to be evaluated to establish strengths and areas for improvement to target the necessary supervision, support, and training for them.
- ii. Resources will be collaborated together through the network of the multi-State Advisory Board.
- iii. Interpreters will have access to a rich array of professional development opportunities to improve language and interpreting competency.
- iv. Overall interpreting services will improve for students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

e. Estimated Cost: \$11,306.00

**5. TASK12 Mentoring for Sign Language Interpreters
(IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300.18 and 34.300.34)**

a. Goal: Enhance the signing skills of school-based sign language interpreters in Nebraska through onsite and virtual mentoring.

b. Activities:

- i. TASK12 staff and the Nebraska TASK12 Board representative will conference together to discuss and refine the training and mentoring activities.
- ii. Nebraska will serve as a mentoring pilot State to provide support to their sign language interpreters and help sustain their signing skills.
- iii. If needed, and if the interpreters meet the 3.0-3.9 EIPA standard, interpreters will participate in a TIPS cohort to help them continue to improve their signing.
- iv. TASK12 staff and Nebraska SEA staff will work together in developing and implementing virtual mentoring services for 5-9 other qualified interpreters in the State.

- c. **Outcomes:**
 - i. TASK12 staff and the Nebraska Advisory Board representative will communicate and network with each other during each training and mentoring activity.
 - ii. Nebraska interpreters (5-9) will receive training and virtual mentoring services to help sustain and improve their signing skills.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$21,000.00**

6. **Jobs Alike Workgroup - Low Incidence (IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300.600)**

- a. **Goal:** Provide opportunities for SEA staff to network on Low Incidence issues.
- b. **Activities:** Nebraska Low Incidence staff and Monitoring staff will participate on quarterly conference calls with other SEA Jobs Alike staff across the country. Participants will share information regarding their special education Monitoring and Low Incidence disabilities processes.
- c. **Outcomes:** SEA Monitoring and Low Incidence staff will build their capacity, knowledge, and skills regarding the SEA special education systems and processes.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$3,000.00**

7. **Complaint Investigator Training, Mentoring, and Consultation**

- a. **Goal:** Provide training, mentoring, and consultation for Nebraska Special Education Complaint Investigators.
- b. **Activities:**
 - i. Provide requested training, mentoring, and consultation for complaint investigators.
 - ii. When requested, provide names of qualified complaint investigators to the SEA.
- c. **Outcomes:**
 - i. Nebraska Special Education Complaint Investigators will have greater skills and knowledge to conduct investigations.
 - ii. Nebraska will have access to expert complaint investigators for consultation.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$40,000.00**

8. Facilitated Individual Education Program (IEP) Assistance and Mediation Training (IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300 Subpart E)

TAESE will assist the NDE in developing a training model around IEP facilitation and mediation.

- a. **Goal:** Develop an IEP facilitation model and provide training on this model for State identified facilitators, SEA staff, and other participants as identified by NDE.
- b. **Activities:**
 - i. Assist in the development of an IEP facilitation and mediation model.
 - ii. Conduct a training for IEP facilitators, mediators, and LEA/SEA staff on the procedures outlined in the IEP facilitation and mediation model manual.
 - iii. Provide IEP facilitation training to other participants such as LEA case managers and teachers.
- c. **Outcomes:**
 - i. The NDE will have a more effective mediation and IEP facilitation process.
 - ii. Training on this model will be available for LEA and SEA staff, mediators, and IEP facilitators.
 - iii. IEP facilitations will increase in Nebraska.
 - iv. School district staff, parents, and other stakeholders will better understand the importance and benefits of mediation and IEP facilitations.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$44,000.00**

9. Dispute Resolution Personnel Training and Mentoring (IDEA Regulations CFR 34.300.511)

- a. **Goal:** The NDE and TAESE will provide a multi-day training for State Due Process Hearing officers, Mediators, and Complaint Investigators. This training will also provide mentoring and support for the dispute resolution staff.
- b. **Activities:**
 - i. TAESE will communicate with the NDE lead staff on planning and implementing the training.
 - ii. TAESE will secure the services of an expert on conducting dispute resolution procedures, including due process hearings, mediations, and complaint investigations.
 - iii. TAESE will prepare the agenda, materials, and PowerPoint files for the multi-day trainings.
 - iv. Conduct the trainings and provide a participant evaluation.

- v. Make mentoring available for the applicable Nebraska staff that is not related to active cases.
- c. **Outcomes:**
 - i. The dispute resolution staff will better understand the legal requirements of conducting due process hearings, mediations, and complaint investigations.
 - ii. Dispute resolution personnel will better understand the legal requirements under IDEA.
 - iii. Dispute resolution personnel will have limited mentoring available to answer specific questions relating to IDEA requirements.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$25,000.00**

10. **School District Special Education Director General Supervision Webinars (IDEA Regulations CFR Subpart B–Eligibility)**

- a. **Goal:** Provide a series of webinars for all new school district special education directors on their general supervision responsibilities.
- b. **Activities and Deliverables:** TAESE will provide the federal perspective of special education general supervision at the school district level on up to six webinars through the fiscal year. Activities will include:
 - i. Meeting with NDE staff to discuss and plan the new Local Education Agency (LEA) webinar series.
 - ii. Developing training materials for each webinar.
 - iii. Being partners in up to six State-sponsored webinars on selected topics for new directors.
 - iv. Participating annually, as requested, in an orientation for new special education directors.
- c. **Outcomes – LEA Directors will:**
 - i. Understand the concept of special education general supervision from the federal perspective and build greater awareness of how the federal requirements apply to them.
 - ii. Understand Nebraska’s general supervision plan and school district implications.
 - iii. Understand the eight components of the special education general supervision system and how those components relate to each other.
 - iv. Know resources that assist LEA Directors with the proper implementation of IDEA at the school district level.
 - v. Understand fiscal and data requirements at the federal and State levels.
 - vi. Improve leadership and management skills.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$19,000.00**

11. Specialized and Customized Professional Development (PD) and Technical Assistance (TA)

- a. **Goal:** Address the emerging needs of the Nebraska State Director of Special Education and NDE as their special education environment changes.
- b. **Activities**
 - i. TAESE will provide special education general supervision materials for school district special education directors.
 - ii. The State Director will contact TAESE to address federal policy issues that might arise during the course of the fiscal year.
 - iii. TAESE will provide monthly federal policy updates for the State Director and SEA staff.
 - iv. At the direction of the State Director, TAESE will conduct research on how other States are addressing certain special education issues.
- c. **Outcomes**
 - i. The Nebraska Office of Special Education will become more current on federal policy and procedural issues.
 - ii. The Nebraska Office of Special Education will have research and professional development resources available to them as new issues emerge.
- d. **Estimated Cost: \$20,000.00**

Budget Summary

Nebraska Contract Proposal 2022 - 2023 Summary of Expenditures		
	Contract Activity	Estimated Cost
1	Tri-State Special Education Law Conference	\$32,000.00
2	Dispute Resolution Training and Professional Development Workgroups	\$12,000.00
3	Support for Nebraska Related Special Education Training Activities	\$40,000.00
4	TASK12 - Training and Assessment Systems for K-12 Educational Sign Language Interpreters	\$11,306.00
5	TASK12 Mentoring for Sign Language Interpreters	\$21,000.00
6	Jobs Alike Workgroup - Low Incidence	\$3,000.00
7	Complaint Investigator Training, Mentoring, and Consultation	\$40,000.00
8	Facilitated Individual Education Program (IEP) Assistance and Mediation Training	\$44,000.00
9	Dispute Resolution Personnel Training and Mentoring	\$25,000.00
10	School District Special Education Director General Supervision Webinars	\$14,000.00
11	Specialized and Customized Professional Development (PD) and Technical Assistance (TA)	\$20,000.00
	Total Direct Expenses	\$262,306.00
	USU Indirect Costs (10%)	\$26,230.60
	Total Cost	\$288,536.60

This proposal is not a binding agreement and is just an estimate of cost, subject to change and review by the sponsor and/or by TAESE/Utah State University.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone and Amy Bunnell

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize Commissioner to renew contract with University of Nebraska Medical Center – Munroe Meyer Institute’s division of Education and Child Development.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Office of Special Education is required to report child outcomes annually under IDEA Part B and C Results Driven Accountability through the Annual Performance Report (APR). This endeavor requires consistent longitudinal data evaluation, analysis, and review by personnel who are uniquely engaged in and knowledgeable about:

- 1) the federal data collection process;
- 2) the evaluation tools being used within the State of Nebraska as well as other states and territories and;
- 3) the mathematical algorithms used to provide statistical analysis, pattern checking, and calculation corrections for all data collected.

The Education and Child Development division of the Munroe Meyer Institute is uniquely qualified to provide these evaluations and analysis supports as their personnel have worked, and continue to work, closely with the federal technical assistance centers to develop and implement these types of services and supports to states in meeting the federal early childhood outcome reporting requirements.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

Project amount: \$70,578

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: IDEA Part B 619 Funds and IDEA Part C Funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: June Board 2018



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 12, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Dr. Zainab Rida and Dr. Jolene Palmer, Office of Coordinated Student Support Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with Boys Town, USA to continue as the communications center for the LB 322 School Safety and Security Reporting System Act, specifically Safe2HelpNE.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

LB322 passed on May 26, 2021, with an effective date of July 1, 2021. It provided NDE to establish the Safe2HelpNE report line as a statewide anonymous reporting system to support threat assessment teams and reduce potential risks and incidents of violence. Transition to the statewide implementation took place during the current contract period ending June 30, 2022. Boys Town, USA served as the communications center during the contract.

LB322 created funds for the Nebraska Safety and Security Reporting System. The bill required the Department of Education to establish a multi-modal statewide, anonymous reporting system enabling students, parents, and school personnel to report threats or concerns of possible harm. The communications center is to be functional 24/7/365 with trained crisis counselors receiving and triaging reports then notifying school district threat assessment teams of the details of the reports. This reporting system supports public and nonpublic K-12 school threat assessment teams, the intent of which is to reduce risk and incidents of targeted violence including harm to self, others, or school property. The reporting system is named and known as the Safe2HelpNE.

Boys Town, USA provided the communications center support for the Douglas County pilot project and also now the statewide project since the inception of Safe2HelpNE. Boys Town, USA is the only in-state 24/7/365 communications center with live crisis counselors.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June, 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$809,445.00

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: August, 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 23, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Kristin Yates, Information Systems Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to renew contract with National Student Clearinghouse for access to data from the StudentTracker.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

StudentTracker is used to obtain information on the enrollment status and educational achievement of Nebraska students enrolled in U.S. postsecondary institutions. This data is used to meet Federal Reporting requirements for Career Education, Adult Basic Education, and Vocational Rehabilitation and to support development of the Nebraska High School Feedback Report (HSFR).

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June, 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$108,105.04

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal and General funds.
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: February 2017



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 26, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a continuation contract with Traci Strazdas.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Step Up to Quality and Results Matter rely on the accuracy of structured program quality observations to provide a basis for quality improvement. In the case of Step Up to Quality, also to earn points that determine the step rating of the program. The Office of Early Childhood Education contracts with a cadre of trained observers to accomplish the program quality scale ratings. The strength of the system is found in the training of observers. Part of that training includes achieving and maintaining a high level of reliability with “Anchors” (expert observers who have achieved reliability with the authors of the program quality tools). Traci Strazdas is the anchor for one set of program observation tools. This contract also includes time and expenses for coaching, training, and completing structured observations of early childhood classrooms in addition to the duties as state anchor.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June, 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$67,170

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal CCDF and state general funds.
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2019



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 13, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a continuation grant to the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NeAEYC) for the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® scholarship program

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The TEACH Early Childhood® is a scholarship program for low-income professionals working in early childhood education and care programs who want to continue their education. T.E.A.C.H. is an acronym that stands for Teacher Education and Compensation Helps. The T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® program began in North Carolina and is operated, evaluated, and monitored by the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood National Center out of Chapel Hill, NC. T.E.A.C.H. programs operate in 21 states and assist early childhood educators to complete associate's degrees in early childhood education. T.E.A.C.H. scholars can eventually complete a bachelor's degree and obtain a Nebraska teaching certificate with an Early Childhood Inclusive endorsement. T.E.A.C.H. pays tuition, books, and release time for students who work at least 30 hours per week in an early childhood program.

The Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children is the T.E.A.C.H. license holder for Nebraska. T.E.A.C.H. license holders follow the strict monitoring of the National TEACH center which includes financial auditing and compliance with policies and standards to protect students. There is only one T.E.A.C.H. licensee per state. This \$100,000 will support T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood scholarships, mentoring and assistance to nontraditional scholars to improve their success. Two different funding sources support TEACH Early Childhood® scholarships. A continuation grant to the NeAEYC was approved at the May 2022 state Board meeting. The funding source for that grant was the federal Child Care Development Fund. The current agenda item is to approve a continuation grant for TEACH Early Childhood® scholarships specifically for scholars who work in programs participating in Step Up to Quality and is funded by state general funds.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING: June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$100,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: State General Funds for Step Up to Quality
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2015 (for grants from this funding source)



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Bunnell and Amy Rhone

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to approve grant funds to the entity listed below in the provision of federally required IDEA Part C duties.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Federal IDEA Part C regulations require federal IDEA Part C funds, including IDEA Part C American Rescue Plan funds, to be utilized by states for activities related to Child Find and Referral Procedures; and the provision of evidence-based interventions/resources to infants/toddlers with disabilities and their families to address the impact of the pandemic and/or trauma on the developing infant/toddler. The following project will be using the IDEA Part C American Rescue Plan funds.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

Project: Nebraska Children and Families Foundation

Project Amount: \$140,000

Purpose: To meet comprehensive Child Find and Referral requirements to ensure referral of specific at-risk and underserved infants and toddlers to the state's IDEA Part C/early intervention program. To support COVID-19 recovery and bolster the four steps of early identification of developmental delays and disabilities for infants and toddlers; to support infant/toddler's development in response to COVID-19 recovery and mitigation efforts. Focus is being made to target referrals from culturally and ethnically diverse families, including Native American Reservations, Asian Cultural and Community Centers, and the York Women's Correctional Center Nursery program.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part C, American Rescue Plan
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: November 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 13, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Lindy Foley, Director of Nebraska VR

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to enter into a revised lease agreement between the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division, and the Department of Education, Nebraska VR/Assistive Technology Partnership, for office space in Lincoln, Nebraska for the period of 7/1/22 through 12/31/22.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska VR/ATP Lincoln field office had a lease with Center for People in Need from 4/1/09-3/31/19. DAS negotiated the first lease renewal for 4/1/19-6/30/21 and the second lease renewal for 7/1/21-6/30/22. DAS has now negotiated the renewal of the lease for 6 months, 7/1/22-12/31/22. The renewal rate for 20,000 sq. ft. is at \$18.43 psf.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

June/2022

ESTIMATED COST:

Space Allocation Agreement — \$18.43 per square foot=\$368,600

2% Administrative Fee — \$7,372

Total — \$375,972

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: 110 state/federal funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 4/1/19



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 19, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Lindy Foley, Director of Nebraska VR

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to enter into a revised lease agreement between the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division, and the Department of Education, Nebraska VR, for office space in Grand Island, Nebraska for the period of 7/1/22 through 6/30/32.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska VR Grand Island field office has a lease with AOI Holdings, LLC from 3/5/12—6/30/22. DAS has now negotiated the renewal of the lease for 7/1/22-6/30/32. The renewal rate for 6,604.56 sq. ft. is at \$17.34 psf.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

June/2022

ESTIMATED COST:

Space Allocation Agreement — \$17.34 per square foot=\$114,523.07

2% Administrative Fee — \$2,290.46

Total — \$116,813.53

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: 110 state/federal funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: This is the first renewal.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 20, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Tobias J. Orr – ATP - Director
Lindy Foley – Nebraska VR - Office Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to enter into a lease agreement between the Department of Administrative Services, State Building Division, and the Department of Education, Nebraska VR/Assistive Technology Partnership, for storage space in Lincoln, Nebraska for the period of 8/1/2022 through 7/31/2027.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska ATP is relocating its education assistive technology loan pool from Cozad, NE to Lincoln, NE. This lease will allow the agency to house equipment for the ATP Education program, as well as housing equipment used for ATP's Equipment Reuse program.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

June 2022

ESTIMATED COST:

Space Allocation Agreement - \$12.75 per square foot = \$68,531.25

2% Administrative Fee - \$1,370.63

Year One Total = \$69,901.88

Annual Increases:

Year 2 – \$0.26

Year 3 – \$0.26

Year 4 – \$0.26

Year 5 – \$0.27

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal – IDEA Part B, IDEA Part C, State AT Act Funds
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A

State Board of Education Annual Orientation and Business Meeting.

Friday May 6, 2022

Sandhills Convention Center, North Platte River Room, 2012 S Jeffers St, North Platte, NE 69101

[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)

[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website and emailed to news media requesting notification, which gave the date, time, and location of the meeting.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, May 6, 2022, 9:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Patsy Koch Johns called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels

Robin Stevens

Patsy Koch Johns

Lisa Fricke

Kirk Penner

Patti Gubbels

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

Absent: Deborah Neary and Jacquelyn Morrison

1.2. President Koch Johns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Koch Johns announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4. Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt asked members of the public to be considerate of the proceedings of the meeting.

2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

2.1. North Platte Public Schools Student Presentation

Commissioner Blomstedt introduced students from North Platte Public Schools Future Farmers of America (FFA). Elleigh Fisher, Emily Hansen and Jake Henry presented to the Board about the North Platte Public Schools FFA program.

2.2. Impact Story of ESSER Fund Investments

Lane Carr, NDE Representative, introduced Superintendent Tim Vanderheiden from McPherson County School who shared the impact of the ESSER Fund Investments on McPherson County School.

3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

Commissioner Blomstedt provided an overview of the Consent Agenda process

3.1.A. No Consent Agenda Items were requested to be removed.

3.2. Board Operations Information

No report.

4. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Koch Johns delivered the President's Report.

5. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Maureen Nickels to approve the Consent Agenda.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

6.1. **Executive Committee** – Robin Stevens, Vice Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee had one action item, reaffirm State Board Bylaw B20, *Board Membership in Associations*.
The Committee had no concerns in reaffirming this bylaw.

The Committee discussed the report on the Commissioner's Appraisal Process.

6.1.A. Reaffirm State Board Bylaw B20, *Board Membership in Associations*

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Patti Gubbels to reaffirm State Board Bylaw B20, *Board Membership in Associations*.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.1.B. Discuss Report on Commissioner Appraisal Process

Commissioner Blomstedt provided a self-appraisal report to the Board.

6.1.B.1. Potential executive session at end of business meeting.

6.2. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Maureen Nickels, Chair, reported on the Committee Meeting.

The Committee discussed the contract with Three Pillars Media Inc. The NDE has worked collaboratively with the Department of Economic Development on this project.

The NDE reviewed the 2021 Single Audit with the Committee. No asset misappropriations or fraud concerns were reported.

The NDE staff reviewed the need for additional early childhood support. The grants will be directed to ESU's and since the programs will be administered by ESU's, both public and non-public schools may benefit.

The Committee discussed the plan to accept funds from DHHS, supported by Federal ARP dollars and what the funds will be used for.

The Committee discussed the allocation of the funds from DHHS for the purposes noted in the previous item.

The Committee discussed the contract with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and the purpose is to provide wraparound services for families and districts in rural Nebraska.

The Committee discussed the Community Living, Traumatic Brain Injury State Demonstration Grant, reviewed the source of the funds and who the funds support.

There was no further Committee discussion on the contract with partners for Insightful Evaluation (PIE), the Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska (BIA-NE), and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

The Committee discussed the need to improve the understanding of school finance. The Committee discussed the desire to complete training in small segments with a focus on upcoming financial deadlines.

The Committee discussed mental health supports, including a report provided by the NDE for the Committee's review prior to the June meeting.

6.2.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

There was no further discussion on this item

6.2.B. Review In-State Travel Authorization Reports

There was no further discussion on this item.

6.2.C Action Item: Accept the 2021 Single Audit

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Kirk Penner to accept the 2021 Single Audit

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.2.D. Action Item: Approve the use of up to \$1,560,000 to fund grants to selected educational service units for preschool through grade two support

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Lisa Fricke to approve the use of up to \$1,560,000 to fund grants to selected educational service units for preschool through grade two support.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.2.E. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to sign an agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to sign an agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.2.F. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to enter into a new contract with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) for staff augmentation services in support of the Nebraska Early Childhood Professional Records System (NECPRS)

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Robin Stevens to enter into a new contract with the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) for staff augmentation services in support of the Nebraska Early Childhood Professional Records System (NECPRS)

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.2.G. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to design, implement, support, and evaluate a full-service community schools program focused on rural schools

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to contract with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to design, implement, support, and evaluate a full-service community schools program focused on rural schools.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.2.H. Action Item: Accept the Community Living, Traumatic Brain Injury State Demonstration Grant

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to accept the Community Living, Traumatic Brain Injury State Demonstration Grant.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.2.I. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Partners for Insightful Evaluation (PIE), the Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska (BIA-NE), and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Robin Stevens to contract with Partners for Insightful Evaluation (PIE), the Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska (BIA-NE), and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.3. **Planning and Evaluation Committee** – Patti Gubbels, Chair, reported on the Committee.

The NDE presented to the Committee information related to the waiver request process, provided information about the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility (NCYF) compliance monitoring actions taken from 2018-2022.

The NDE review Rule 18 Regulatory Authority and provided a list of Rule 18 schools for 2022-2023 to the Committee.

The NDE reviewed the list of Education Service Units appearing on the accreditation list for 2022-2023.

Committee members shared something liked about the current draft on Mathematics Content Area Standards. The NDE shared a timeline of next steps and reviewed talking points and a comparison table of the differences from the 2015 version of the standards.

NDE Staff provided a report to the Committee on the Spring NSCAS Growth assessment and presented details of the assessment contracts for NWEA and DRC for 2022-2023.

NDE Staff reviewed statutory requirements for the designation of priority schools. A status report of former and current priority schools was provided to the Committee.

6.3.A. Action Item: Approve the waiver request from the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility (NCYF) to waive the requirements found in Rule 10 (92 NAC 10), Section 007.04A, *Media Specialist* in accordance with the waiver provisions in Rule 10 (92 NAC 10), Section 013.01, *Special Purpose Agreement*

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Maureen Nickels to approve the waiver request from the Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility (NCYF) to waive the requirements found in Rule 10, Section 007.04A *Media Specialist* in accordance with the waiver provisions in Rule 10, Section 013.01, *Special Purpose Agreement*.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

6.3.B. Action Item: Approve Interim-Program Schools to operate for the 2022-2023 school year under Rule 18 (92 NAC 18), *Regulations and Procedures for the Approval of Interim-Program Schools in County Detention Homes, Institutions and Juvenile Emergency Shelters*

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Lisa Fricke to operate for the 2022-2023 school year under Rule 18 (92 NAC 18), *Regulations and Procedures for the Approval of Interim-Program Schools in County Detention Homes, Institutions and Juvenile Emergency Shelters*.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

- 6.3.C. Action Item: Approve accreditation for the Educational Service Units appearing on the accompanying list for the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 84 (92 NAC 84), *Regulations for Educational Service Units*

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Maureen Nickels to approve accreditation for the Educational Service Units appearing on the accompanying list for the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 84 (92 NAC 84), *Regulations for Educational Service Units*.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

- 6.3.D. Discussion Item: Report on Mathematics Content Area Standards

Board Members discussed the removal of social emotional learning from the standards.

- 6.4. **Rules and Regulations Committee** – Lisa Fricke, reported on the Committee

The Committee did not have any action items on the agenda.

The Committee received an update from NDE Staff on the Rule 20: *Regulations for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs* revision process.

The Committee received an update from NDE Staff on the review of Bylaw B13, *Rule Development*.

- 6.4.A. Report on Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt reported on the rules.

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24 is with the Governor awaiting approval.

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51 is with the Governor awaiting approval.

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

No items for additional business.

President Koch Johns called for a break at 10:49 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:58 a.m.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- 8.1. The following individuals from the public spoke against the Health Standards: Barb Langley, Carol Friesen, Carol Watson, Cheryl Harkinson, Clark Spivey, Elissa Martin, Jenna Derr, Jennifer Thomas, Mike Meyer, Patrick Martin, Sherry Jones, Tawney Morris, Vicki Bauer

The following individuals from the public spoke against Social Emotional Learning (SEL) in the Mathematics Content Area Standards: W. Pat Moore, Theresa Thibodeau, Trent Loos

Brenda Fourtuer spoke to scrap Rule 10 for rural schools, let those schools focus on the things that matter such as their teachers

Rita Fritch spoke about transparency with Board Agenda Items

Miriam Nikkila spoke about the LPS Equity Cadre, and those students are being programmed to cause more division in the country

8.2. Written Public Comment

Submitted written public comments are linked through SPARQ in Board Agenda item number 8.2., SBOE Written Public Comment May 2022.

President Koch Johns called for a recess at 12:23 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:05 p.m.

Executive Session

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Lisa Fricke that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss the Commissioner's Appraisal and to prevent needless injury to the reputation of the individual.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

At 1:07 p.m., the Board moved into Executive Session to discuss the Commissioner's Appraisal.

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Patti Gubbels to adjourn Executive Session at 3:11 p.m.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent
Kirk Penner	Yea

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

9.1. President Koch Johns referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Patti Gubbels shared that the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Annual Conference will be in Phoenix, AZ October 26-28, 2022. An email was sent out to Board Members to complete a short summary on what State Board Members would like to learn or hear about at the annual conference.

Robin Stevens, on behalf of the seventh district, thanked the Sandhills Convention Center and the North Platte Catholic Schools and Public Schools for Nebraska State Board of Education coming to North Platte.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Koch Johns adjourned the meeting at 3:14 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, June 3, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. in Lincoln, Nebraska.

BEFORE THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
STATE OF NEBRASKA

IN THE MATTER OF:)	ORDER
)	Case No. 22-13
Adjustment of the Boundaries of Educational)	
Service Unit Numbers 6 and 18)	

On June 3, 2022, the State Board of Education (Board) met at Innovation Campus, Lincoln, Nebraska. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. Section 79-1205, the Board is required to adjust the boundaries of educational service units which do not align with the boundaries of member school districts as such school district boundaries exist on August 1, 2022.

The Board finds that the boundaries for Educational Service Unit Numbers 6 and 18 currently do not align with the boundaries of their member school districts of said educational service units in Lancaster County for the reason that the City of Lincoln annexed territory that was within the boundaries of Lancaster County School District No. 145 (Waverly School District 145), Lancaster County School District No. 148 (Malcolm Public School District 148) and Lancaster County School District No. 160 (Norris Public School District), and pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-408 and 79-475 said territories became part of Lancaster County School District No. 1 (Lincoln Public Schools).

Therefore, the Board adjusts the boundaries of Educational Service Unit Number 18 to align with the school district boundaries of Lancaster County School District No. 1 (Lincoln Public Schools), and adjusts the boundaries of Educational Service Unit Number 6 to align with the school district boundaries of Lancaster County School District No. 145 (Waverly School District 145), Lancaster County School District No. 148 (Malcolm Public School District 148), and Lancaster County School District No. 160 (Norris Public School District) as such school district boundaries exist on August 1, 2022.

The County Clerk, Treasurer, and Assessor of Lancaster County are directed to implement the necessary changes in the educational service unit maps and tax records as required pursuant to this order and applicable law, with an effective date of August 1, 2022. A copy of this order shall also be provided to the appropriate educational service unit officials and to the Election Division in the office of the Secretary of State.

Dated this 3rd day of June 2022.

Patsy Koch Johns, President
State Board of Education



Lincoln Educational Service Unit No. 18

P.O. Box 82889 • Lincoln, NE 68501 • (402) 436-1636 • Fax (402) 458-3285

May 3, 2022

State Board of Education
Lincoln, NE

State Board:

Pursuant to Section 79-1205, Educational Service Unit 18 is requesting that its boundaries be adjusted so that the boundaries match those of Lancaster County School District 001.

Please contact me at 402-436-1635 if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Salem".

Dr. Sarah Salem
ESU 18 Administrator

BW FILED 01

MAY 11 2022

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Pyrite Elementary School
- Lux Middle School
- East High School

LPS School Board District

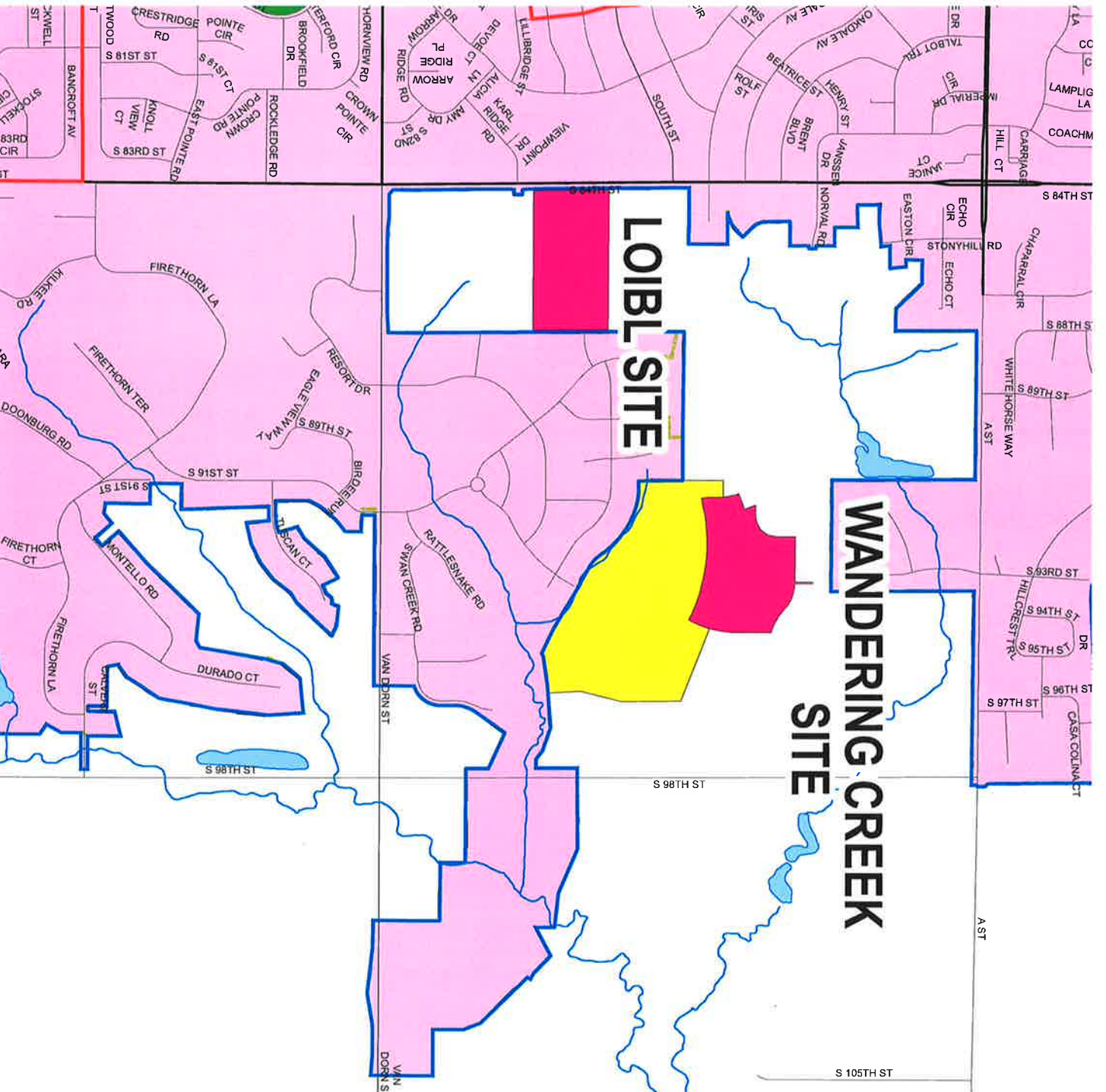
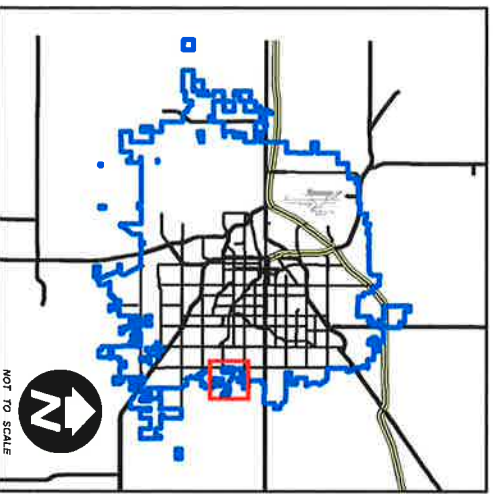
District 6

City of Lincoln Information

Annexation Number: 22002
 Ordinance Number: 21252
 Name: Wandering Creek PUD
 Effective: April 26, 2022
 Size: 50.41 Acres

Previous School District #145 - Meverly

- Area of Annexation
- LPS District Boundary
- Lincoln City Limits
- Elementary Attendance Area
- High School Attendance Area
- Middle School Attendance Area

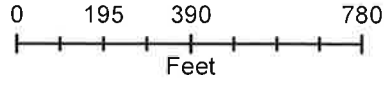




**Annexation by Ordinance
S 94th St & Van Dorn St
Effective: April 26, 2022**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  Current City Limits



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City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Wysong Elementary School
- Moore Middle School
- East High School

LPS School Board District

District 5

City of Lincoln Information

Annexation Number: 22001
 Ordinance Number: 21241
 Name: Grandview Estates 2nd Addition
 Effective: April 12, 2022
 Size: 42.97 Acres

Previous School District

#160 - Norris

Area of Annexation

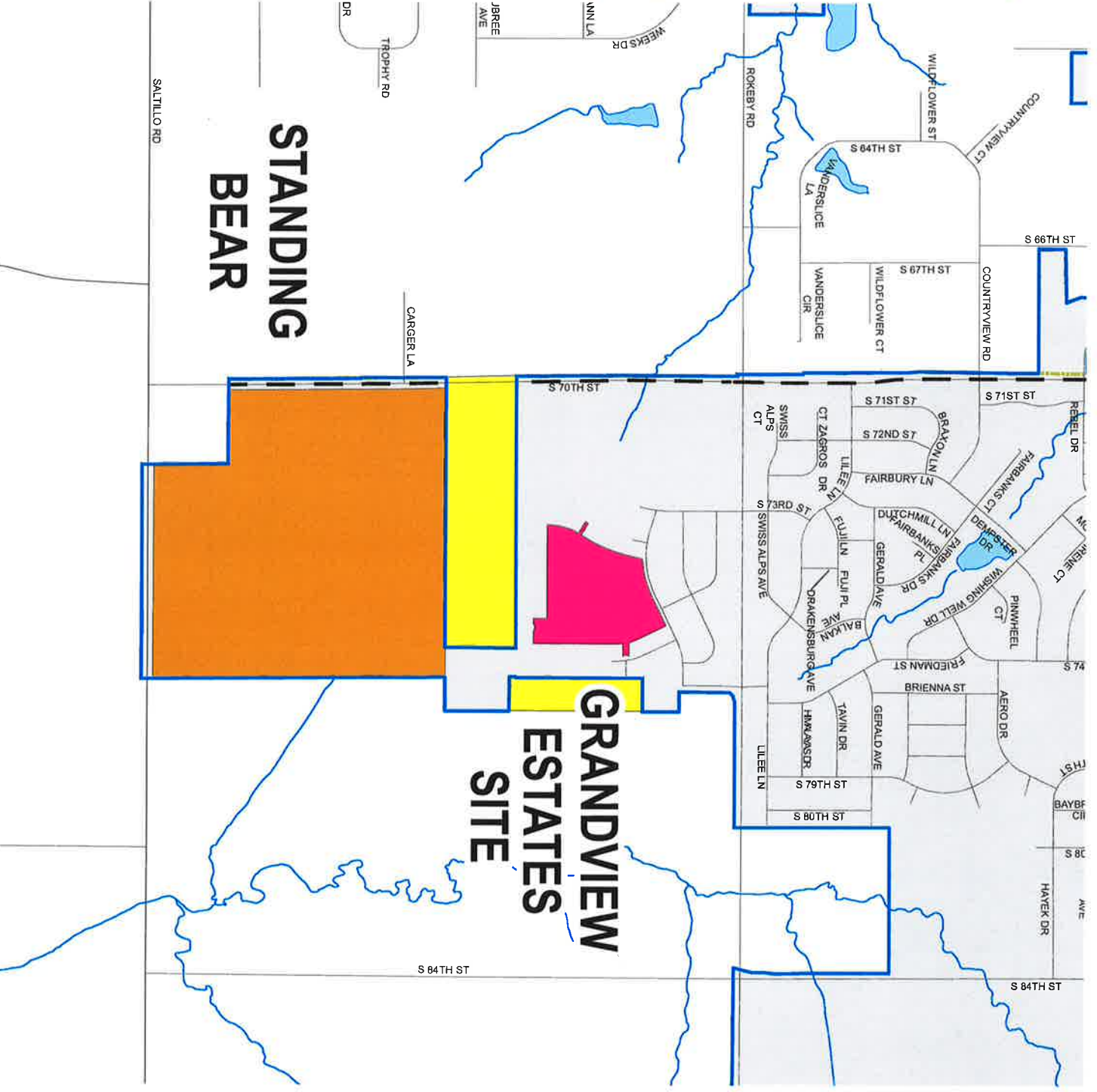
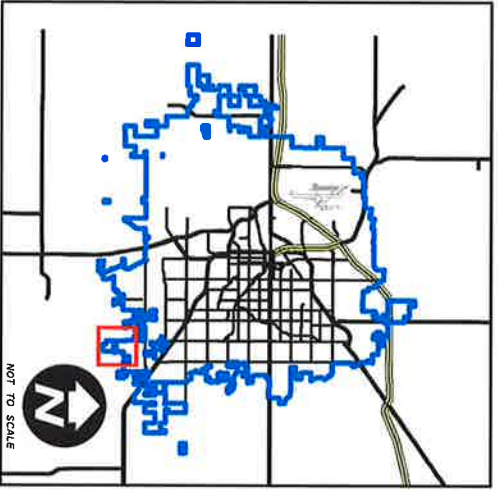
LPS District Boundary

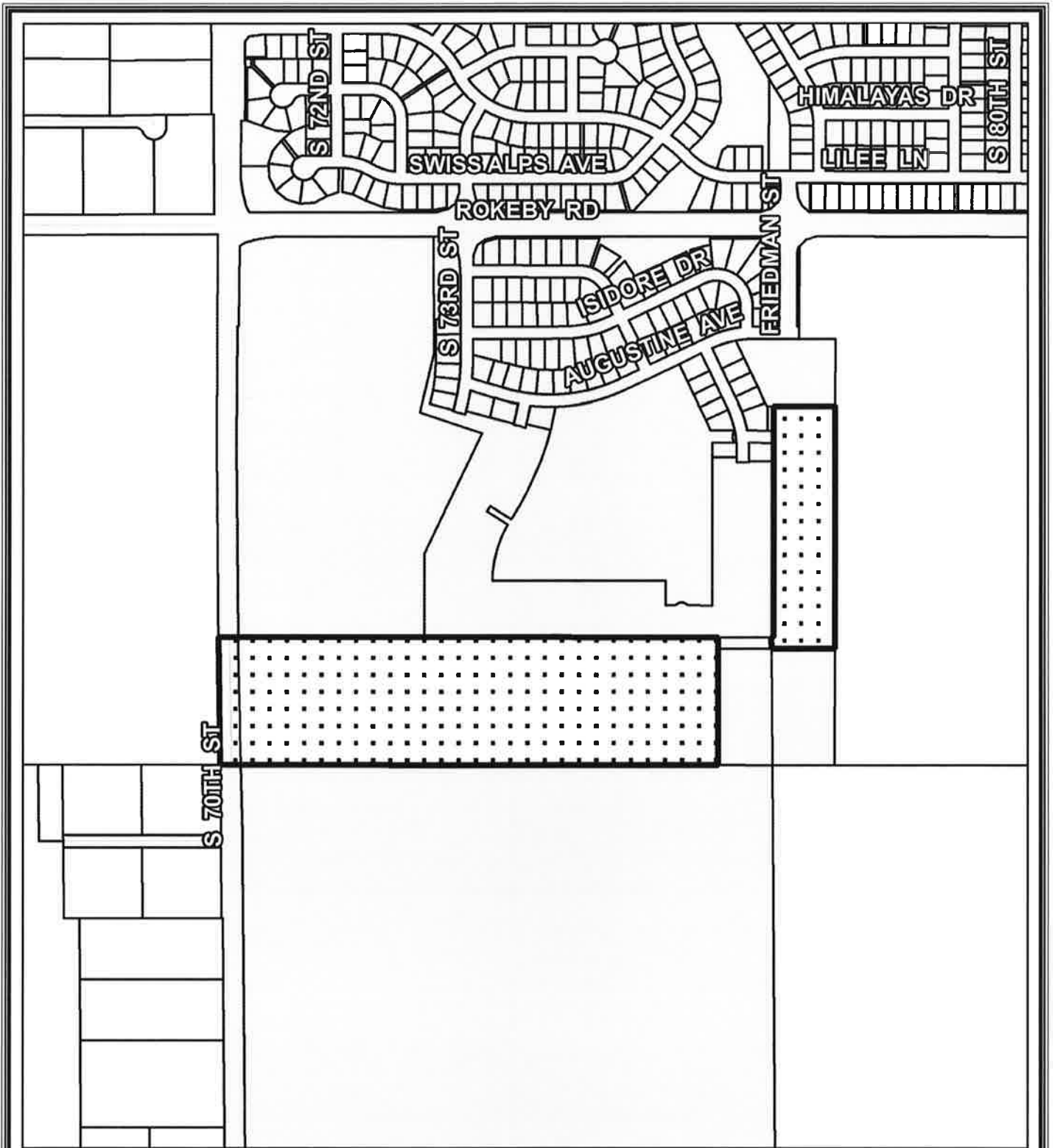
Lincoln City Limits

Elementary Attendance Area

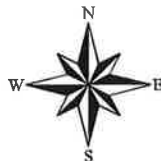
High School Attendance Area




Middle School Attendance Area

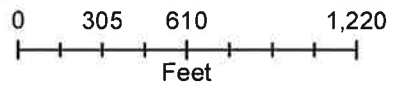




**Annexation by Ordinance
S 70th St & Rokeby Rd
Effective: April 12, 2022**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  Current City Limits



City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Humann Elementary School
- Moore Middle School
- Southeast High School

LPS School Board District

District 5

City of Lincoln Information

Annexation Number: AN21012
Ordinance Number: 21216
Name: S 40th St & Rokeby Rd
Effective: March 1, 2022
Size: 5.46 Acres

Previous School District

#160 - Norris

LPS District Boundary

Elementary Attendance Area

High School Attendance Area

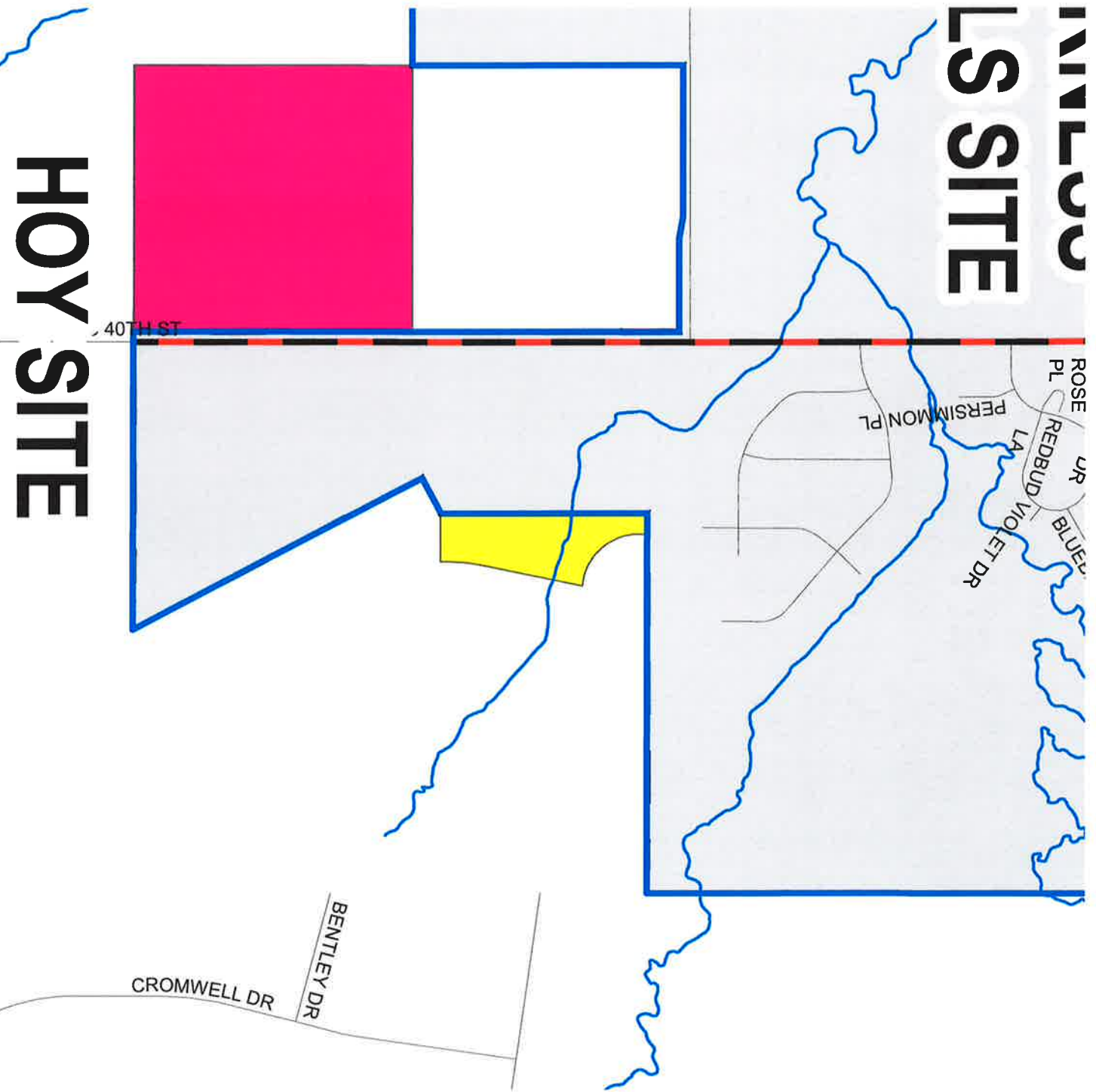
Area of Annexation

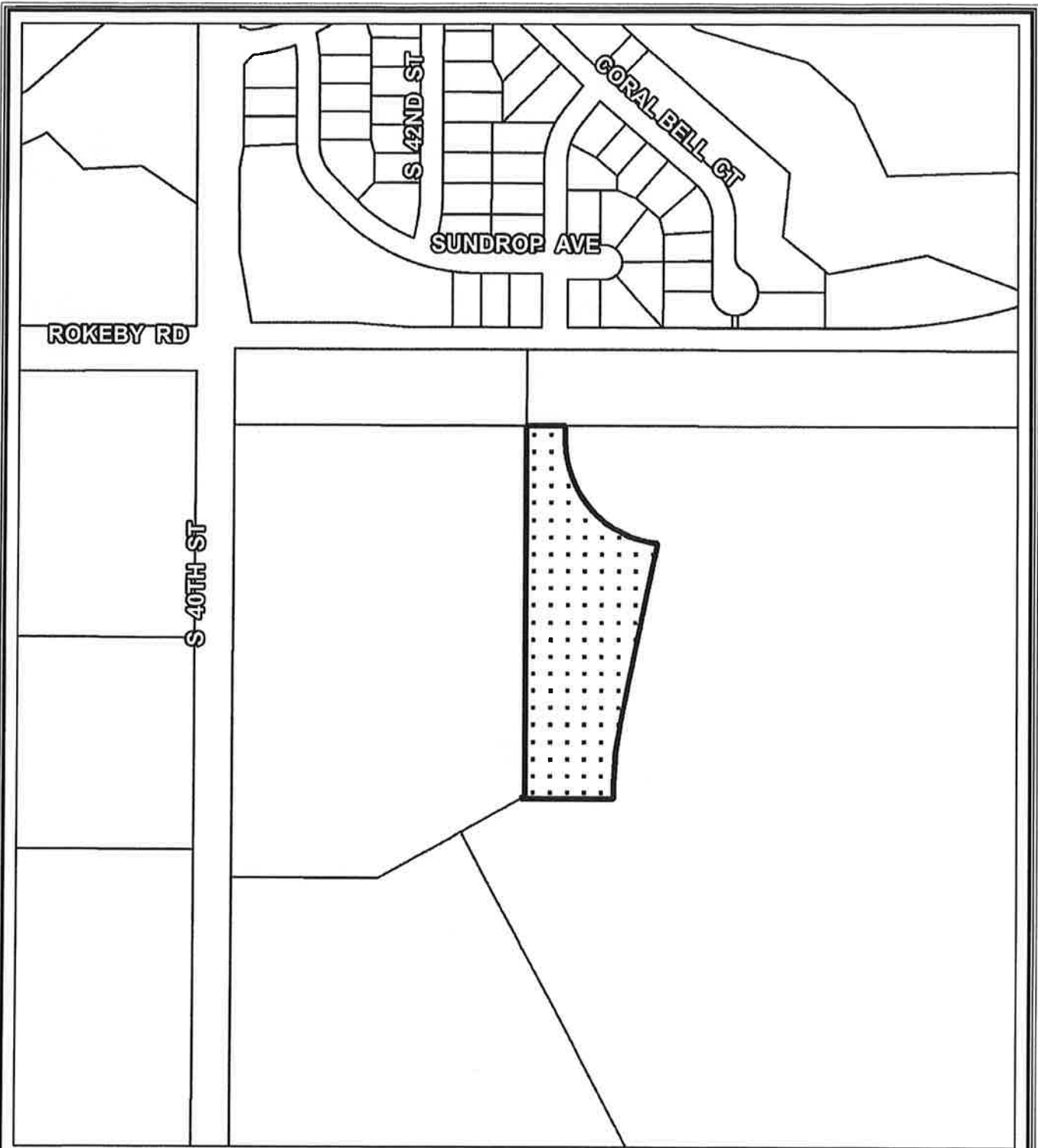
Lincoln City Limits

Middle School Attendance Area

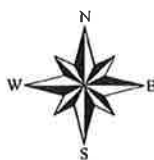





INWOOD LPS SITE

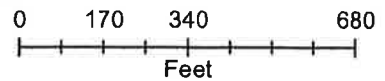




**Annexation by Ordinance
S 40th St & Rokeby Rd
Effective: March 1, 2022**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  Current City Limits



City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Norwood Park Elementary School
- Dawes Middle School
- Northeast High School

LPS School Board District

District 1

City of Lincoln Information

Annexation Number: AN21006
Ordinance Number: 21205
Name: CLS Addition, 66th & Arbor Road
Effective: February 15, 2022
Size: 16.78 Acres

Previous School District

#145 - Waverly



LPS District Boundary



Elementary Attendance Area



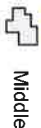
High School Attendance Area



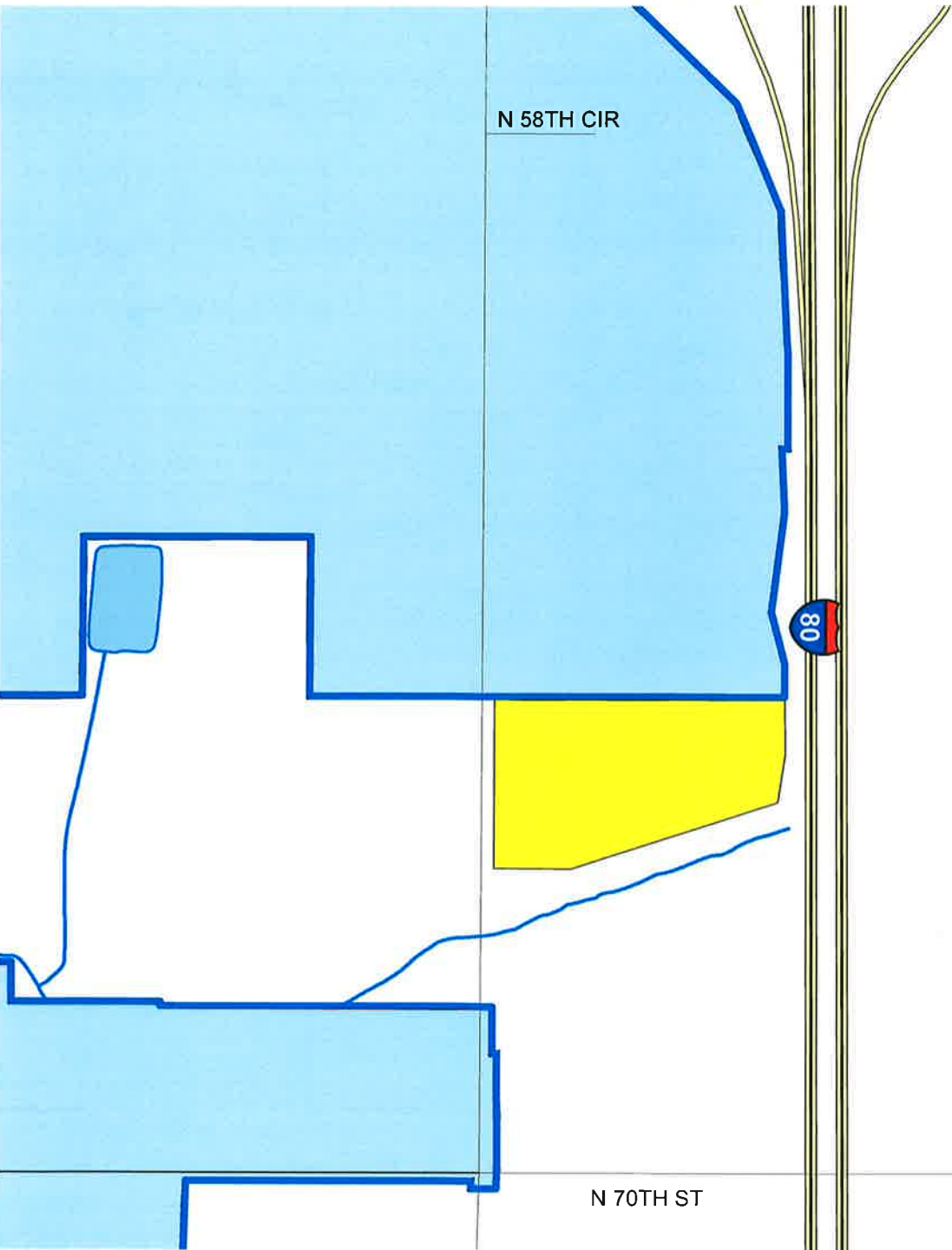
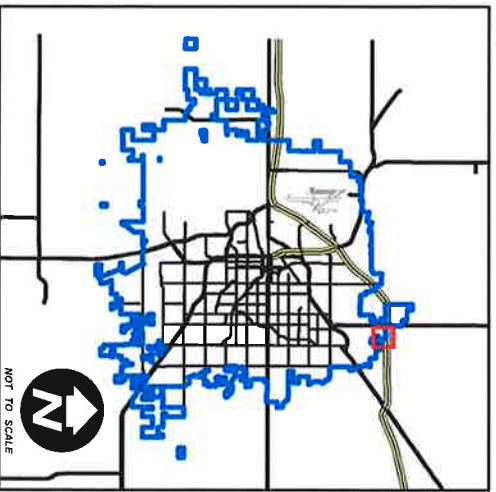
Area of Annexation

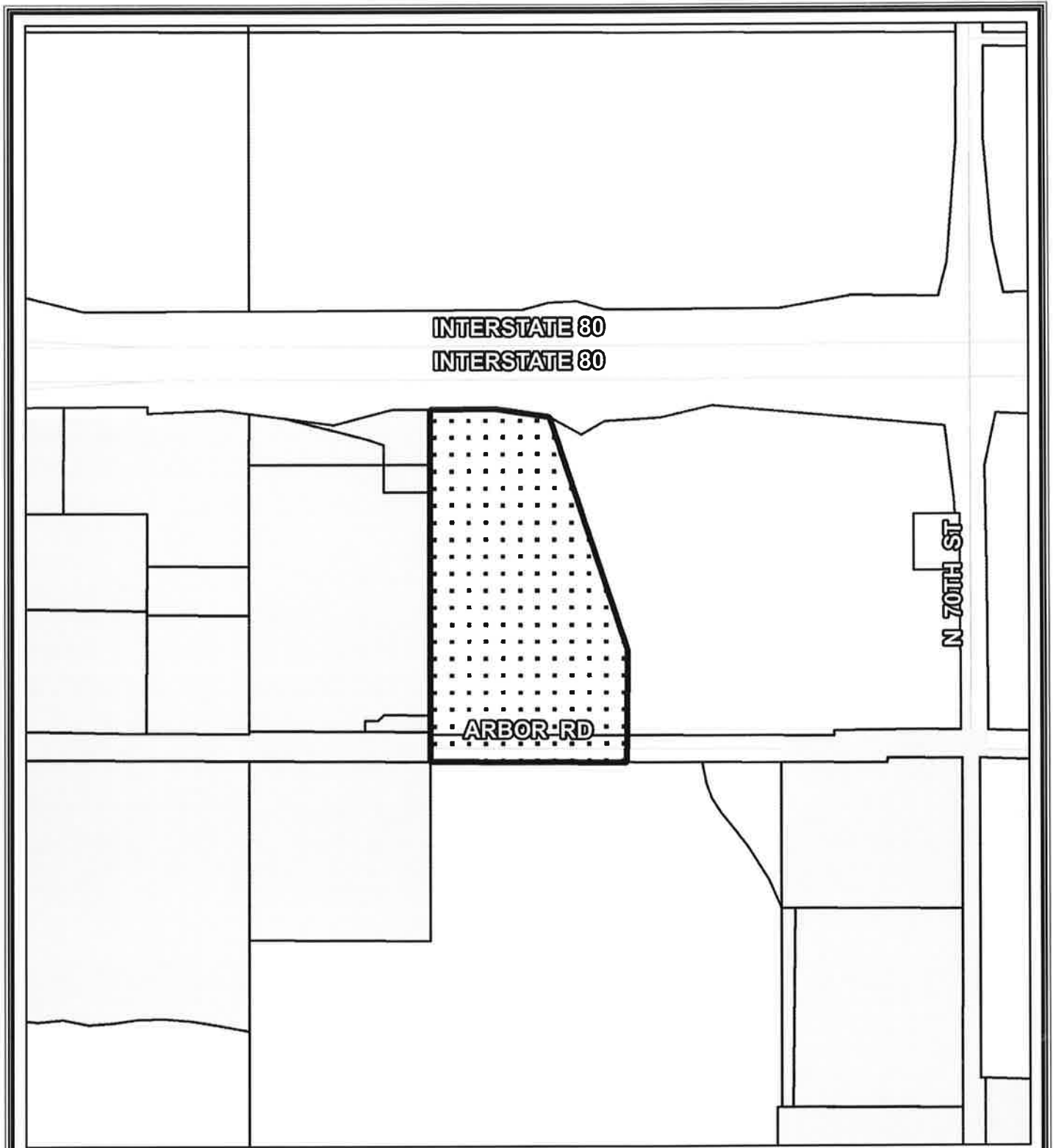


Lincoln City Limits



Middle School Attendance Area



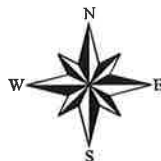





INTERSTATE 80
INTERSTATE 80

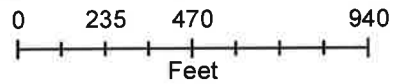
N 70TH ST

ARBOR RD

Annexation by Ordinance
N 70th St & Arbor Rd
Effective: February 15, 2022



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  Current City Limits



City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Wysong Elementary School
- Moore Middle School
- East High School

LPS School Board District

District 5

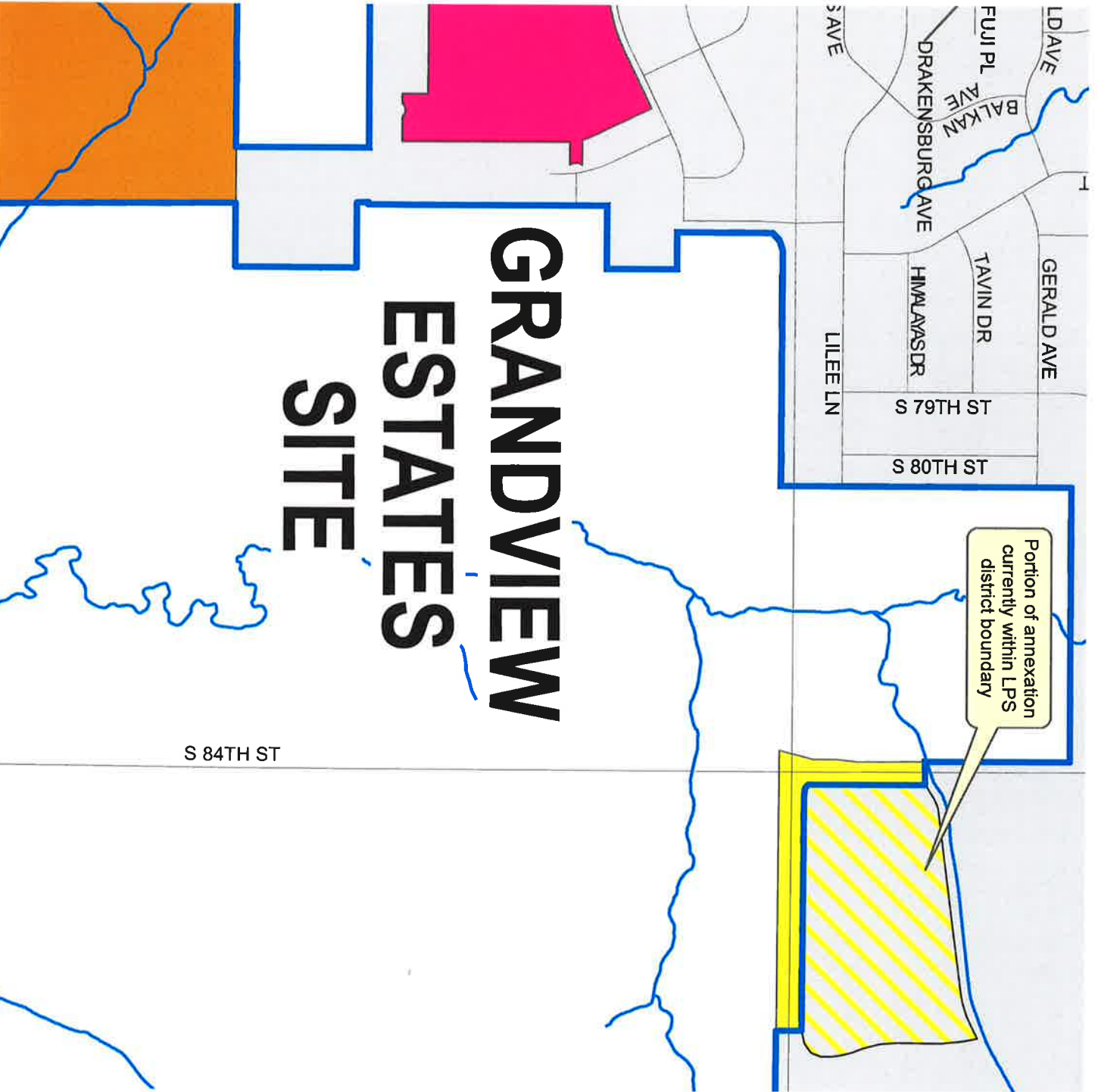
City of Lincoln Information

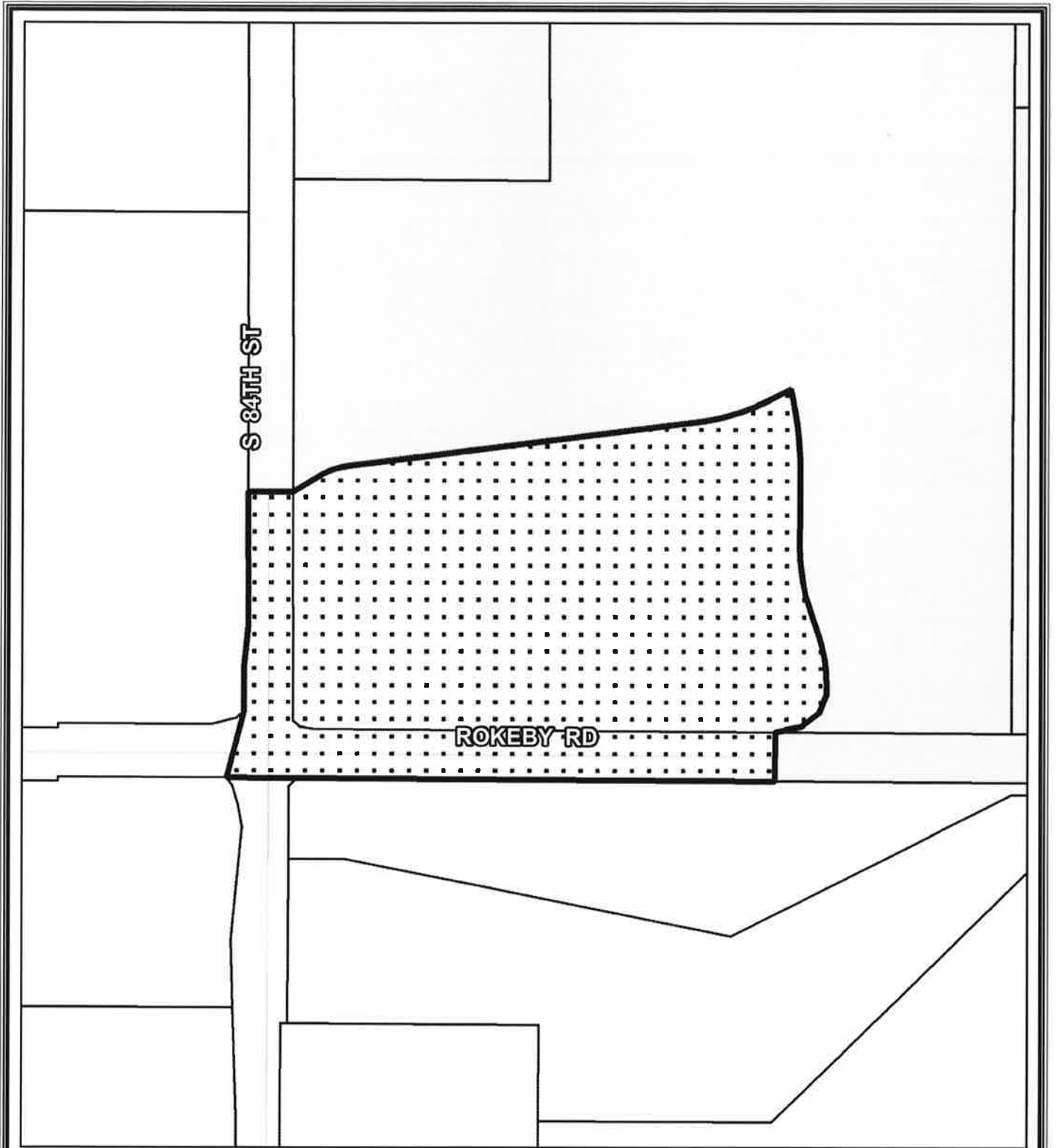
Annexation Number: AN21007
 Ordinance Number: 21210
 Name: Rokeby Ridge CUP
 Effective: February 22, 2022
 Size: 5.15 Acres

Previous School District

#1 - Lincoln




- LPS District Boundary
- Elementary Attendance Area
- High School Attendance Area
- AnnexAreas
- Lincoln City Limits
- Middle School Attendance Area

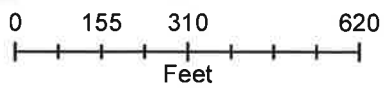




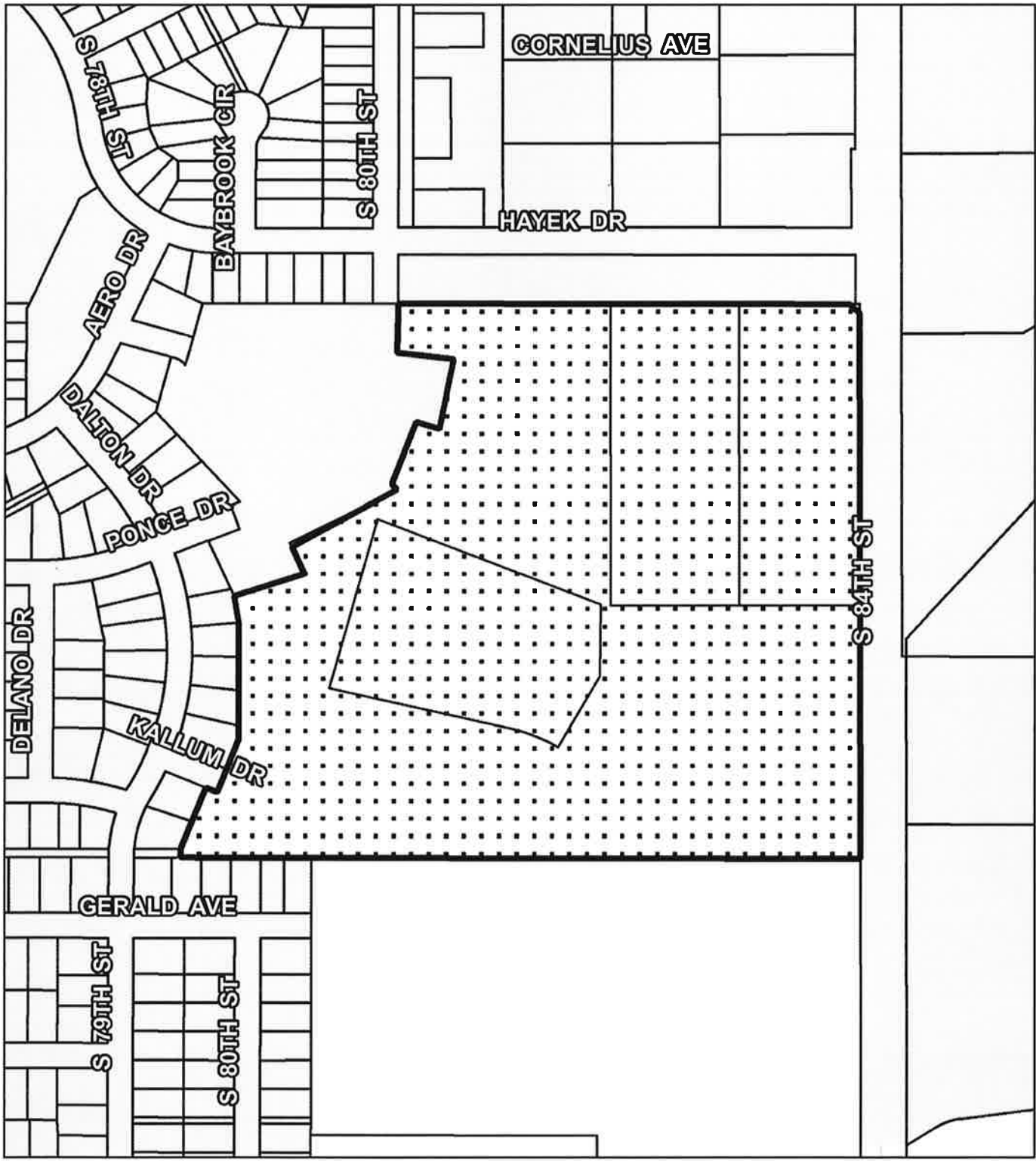
**Annexation by Ordinance
S 84th St & Rokeby Rd
Effective: February 22, 2022**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  Current City Limits






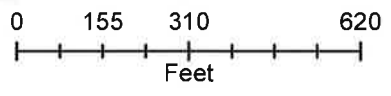
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**Annexation by Ordinance
S 84th St & Yankee Hill Rd
Effective: February 15, 2022**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  Current City Limits



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City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

Kooser Elementary School
 Schoo Middle School
 North Star High School

LPS School Board District







District 3

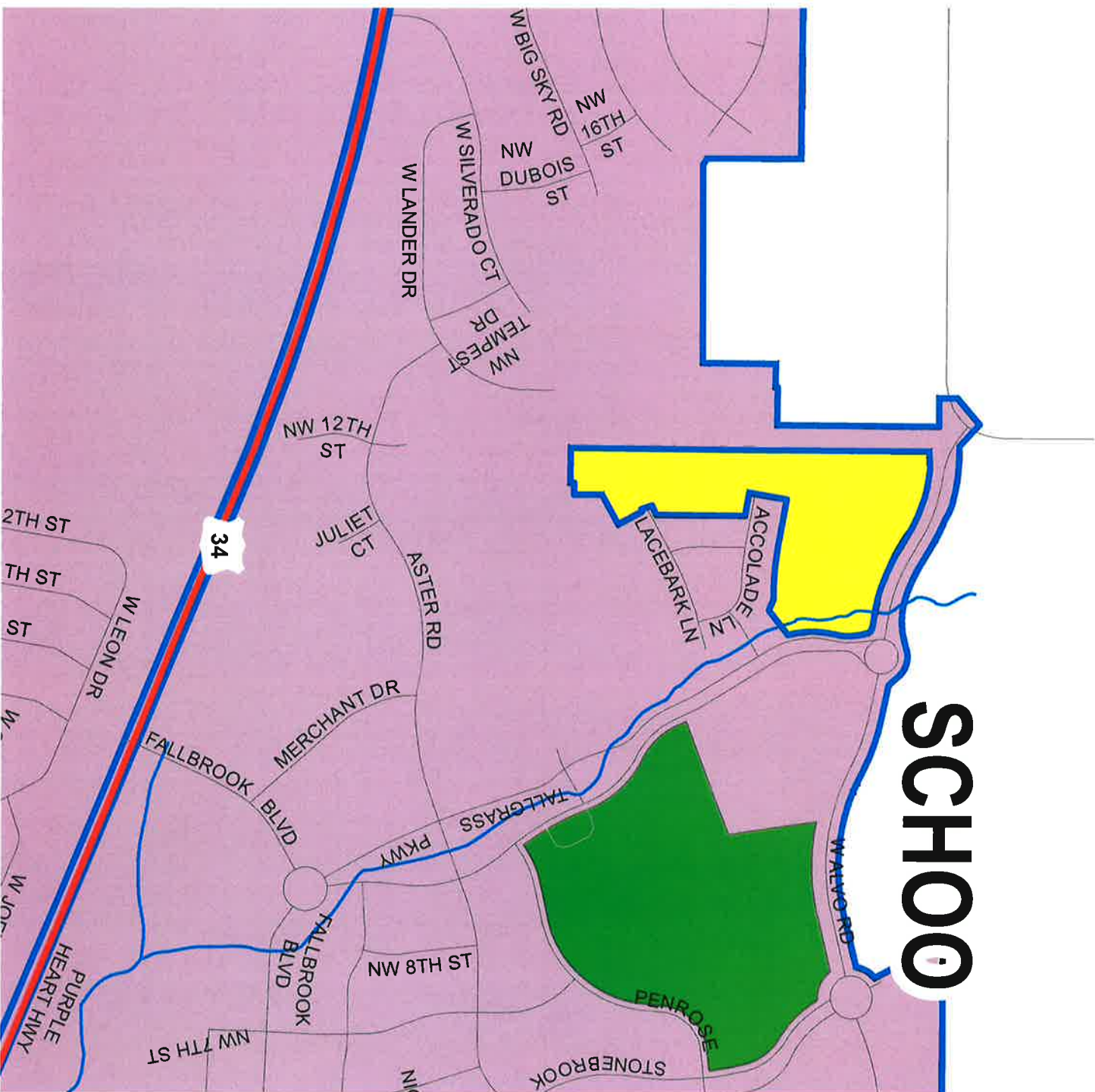
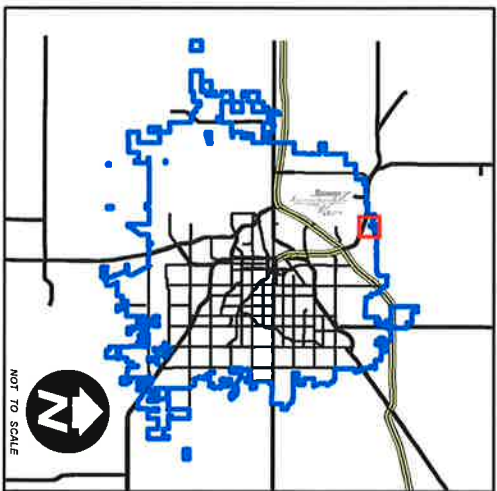
City of Lincoln Information

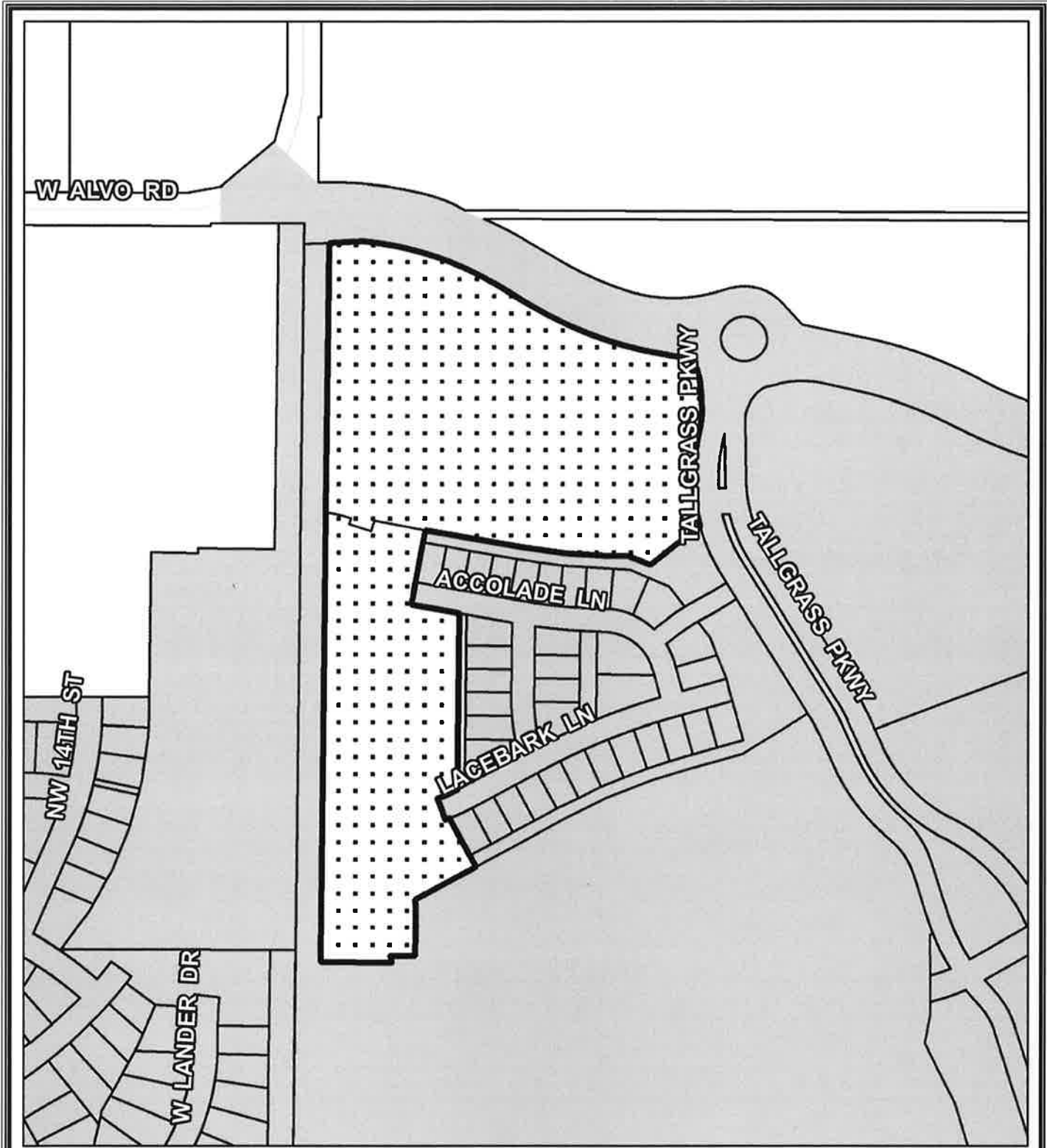
Annexation Number: FPPL21070
 Ordinance Number: NONE
 Name: Aster Rd & Tallgrass Pkwy
 Effective: November 3, 2021
 Size: 18.22 Acres

Previous School District

#148 - Malcom




-  LPS District Boundary
-  Elementary Attendance Area
-  High School Attendance Area
-  Area of Annexation
-  Lincoln City Limits
-  Middle School Attendance Area

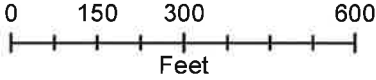




**Annexation by Final Plat
Aster Rd & Tallgrass Pkwy
Effective: November 3, 2021**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  City Limits Before Annexation



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City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Adams Elementary School
- Moore Middle School
- Southwest High School

LPS School Board District







District 5

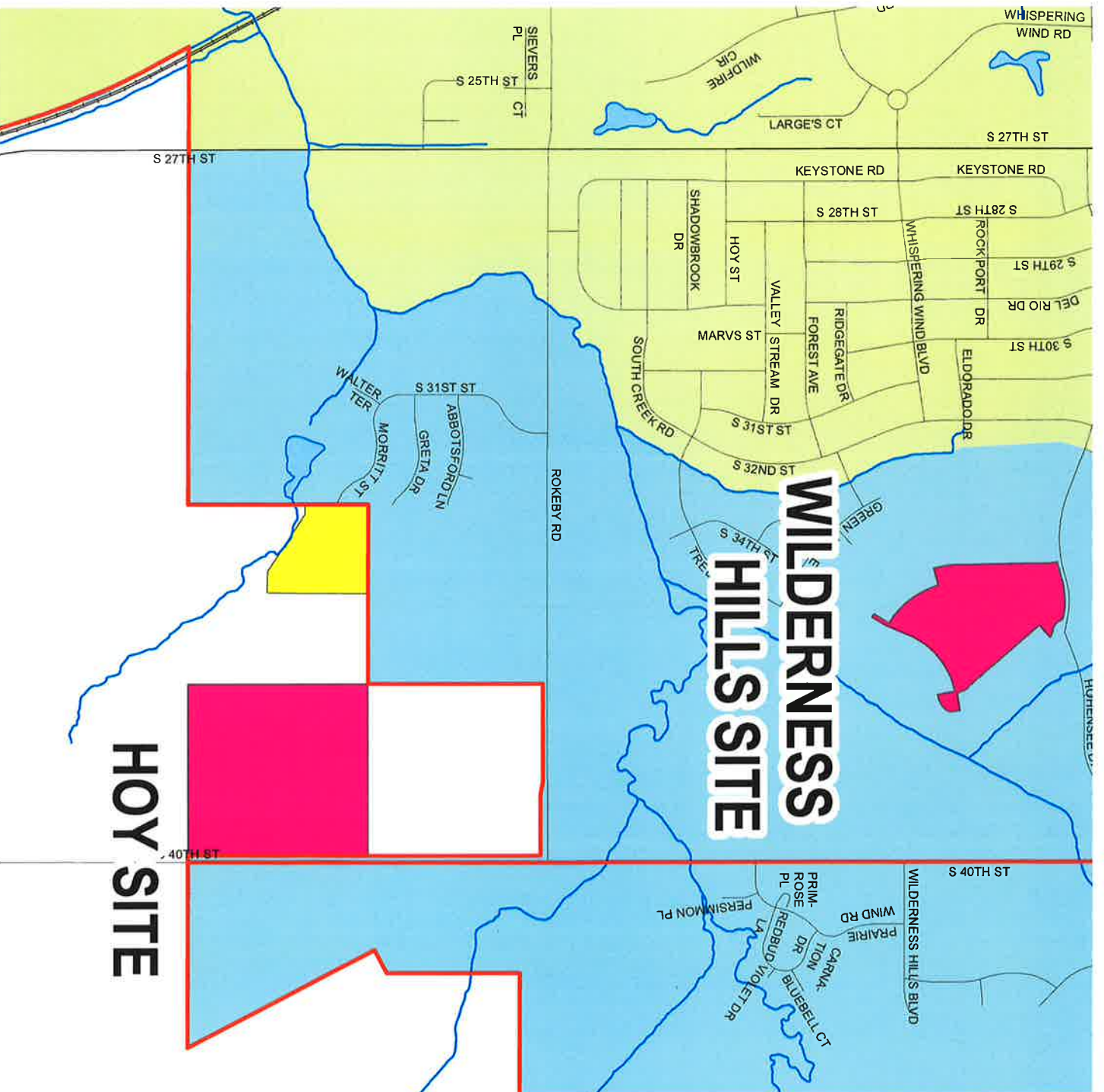
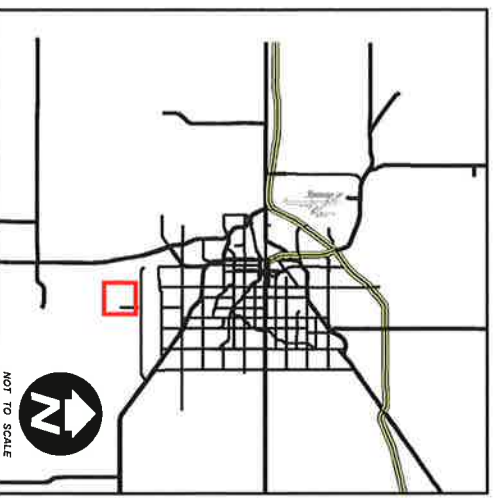
City of Lincoln Information

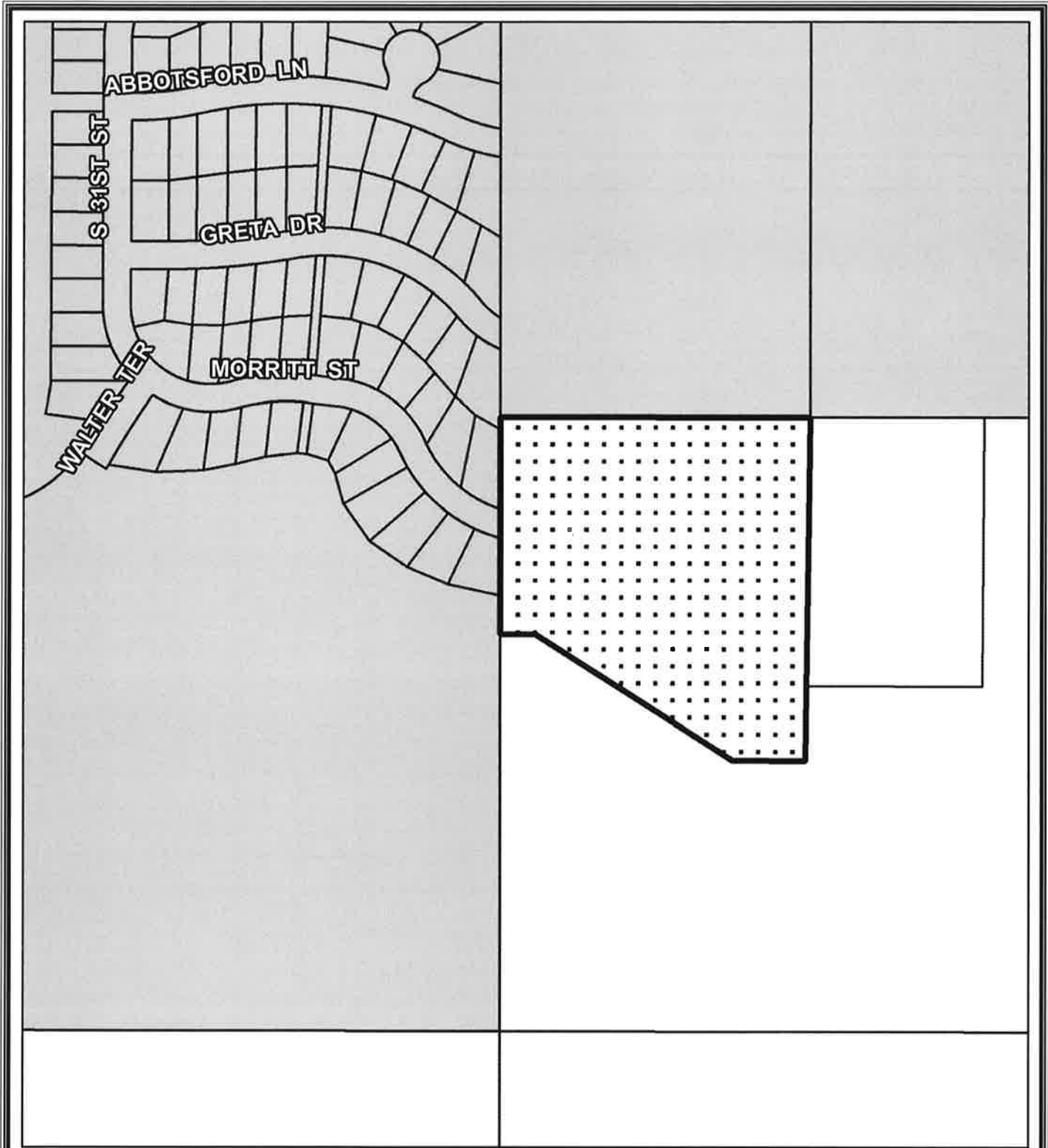
Annexation Number: 19006
 Ordinance Number: 21151
 Name: Reunion Ridge CUP
 Effective: November 16, 2020
 Size: 9.32 Acres

Previous School District

#160 - Norris




-  Area of Annexation
-  LPS District Boundary
-  Lincoln City Limits
-  Elementary Attendance Area
-  High School Attendance Area
-  Middle School Attendance Area

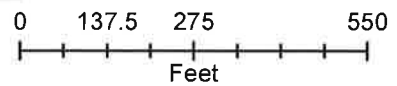




**Annexation by Ordinance
S 40th St & Rokeby Rd
Effective: November 16, 2021**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  City Limits Before Annexation



City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Wysong Elementary School
- Moore Middle School
- East High School

LPS School Board District







District 5

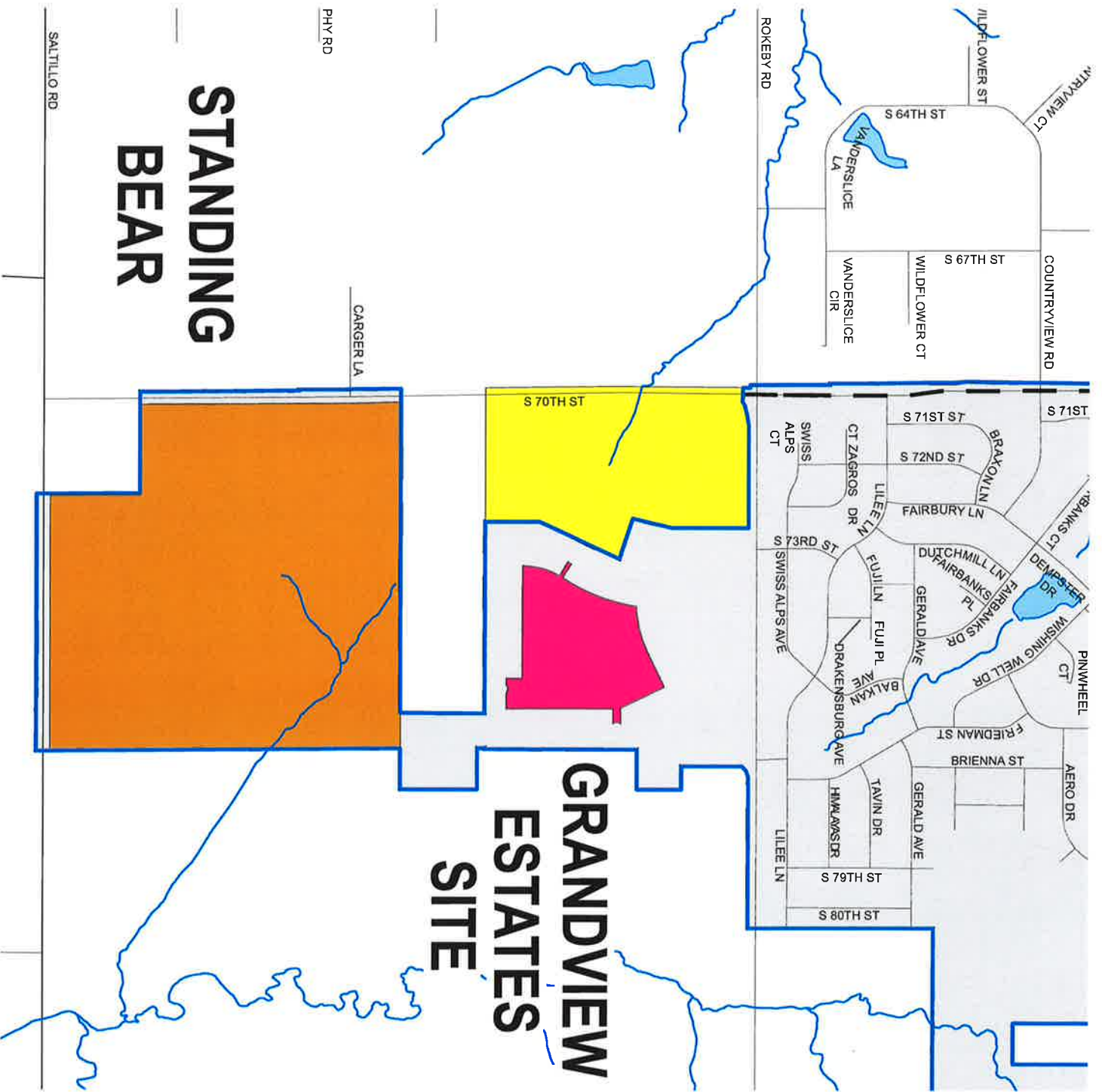
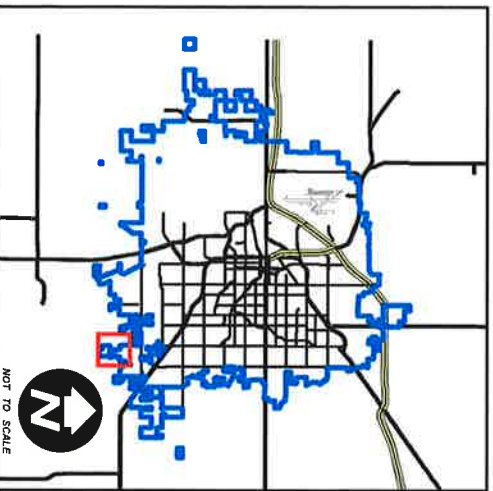
City of Lincoln Information

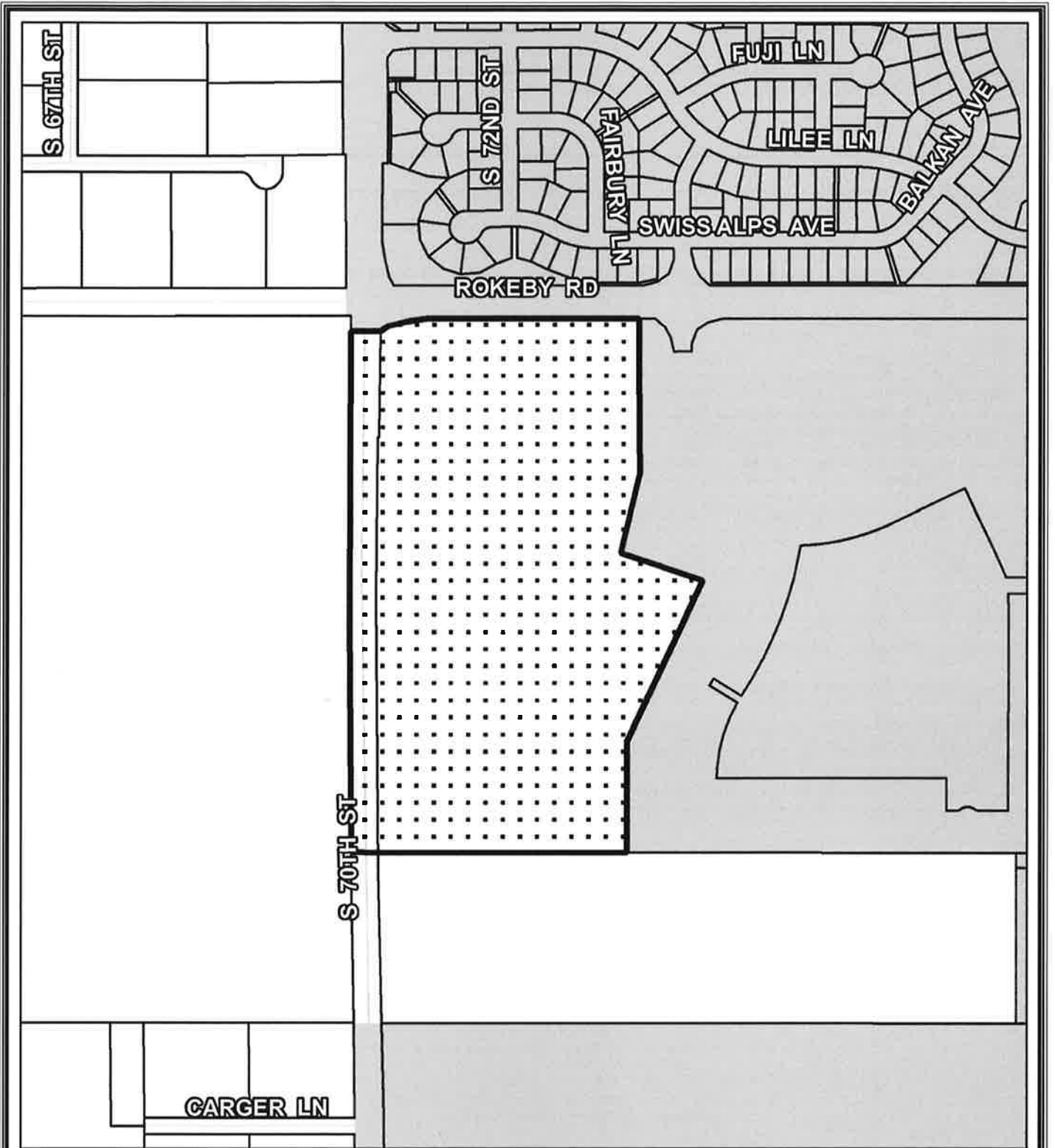
Annexation Number: 21003
 Ordinance Number: 21101
 Name: Grandview Estates 2nd Addition
 Effective: August 17, 2021
 Size: 47.93 Acres

Previous School District

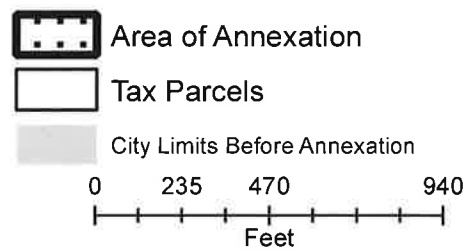
#160 - Norris

-  LPS District Boundary
-  Elementary Attendance Area
-  High School Attendance Area
-  Area of Annexation
-  Lincoln City Limits
-  Middle School Attendance Area





**Annexation by Ordinance
S 70th St & Rokeby Rd
Effective: August 17, 2021**



City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Pyrtle Elementary School
- Lux Middle School
- East High School

LPS School Board District

District 6

City of Lincoln Information

Annexation Number: 20014

Ordinance Number: 21096

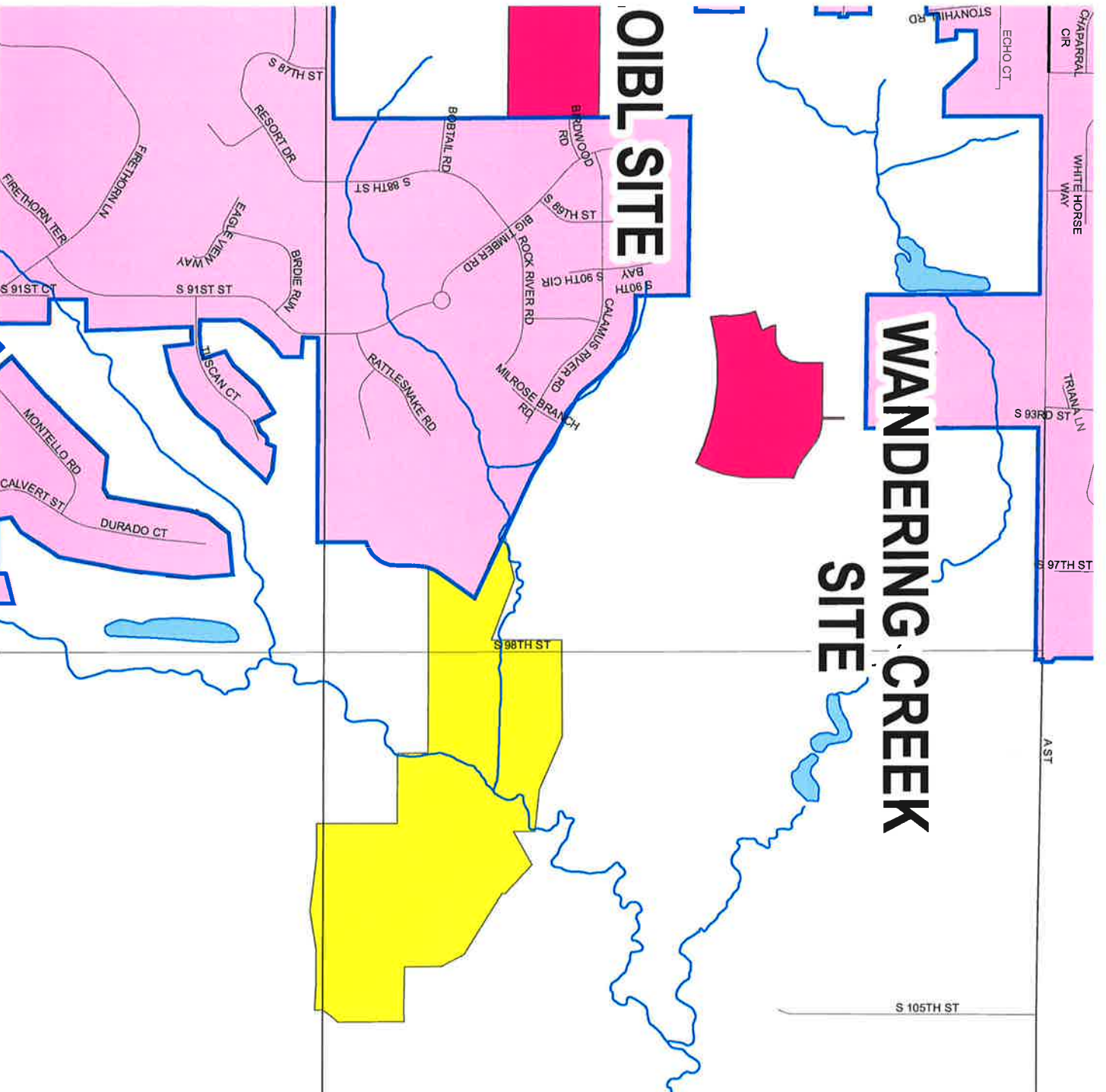
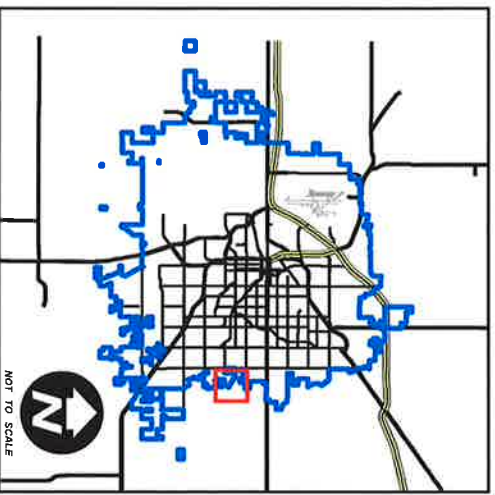
Name: Fire Ridge

Effective: August 10, 2021

Size: 77.13 Acres




Previous School District

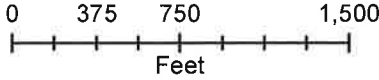
#145 - Waverly





**Annexation by Ordinance
S 98th St & Van Dorn Stt
Effective: August 10, 2021**

-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  City Limits Before Annexation



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City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

- Meadow Lane Elementary School
- Culler Middle School
- East High School

LPS School Board District

District 6

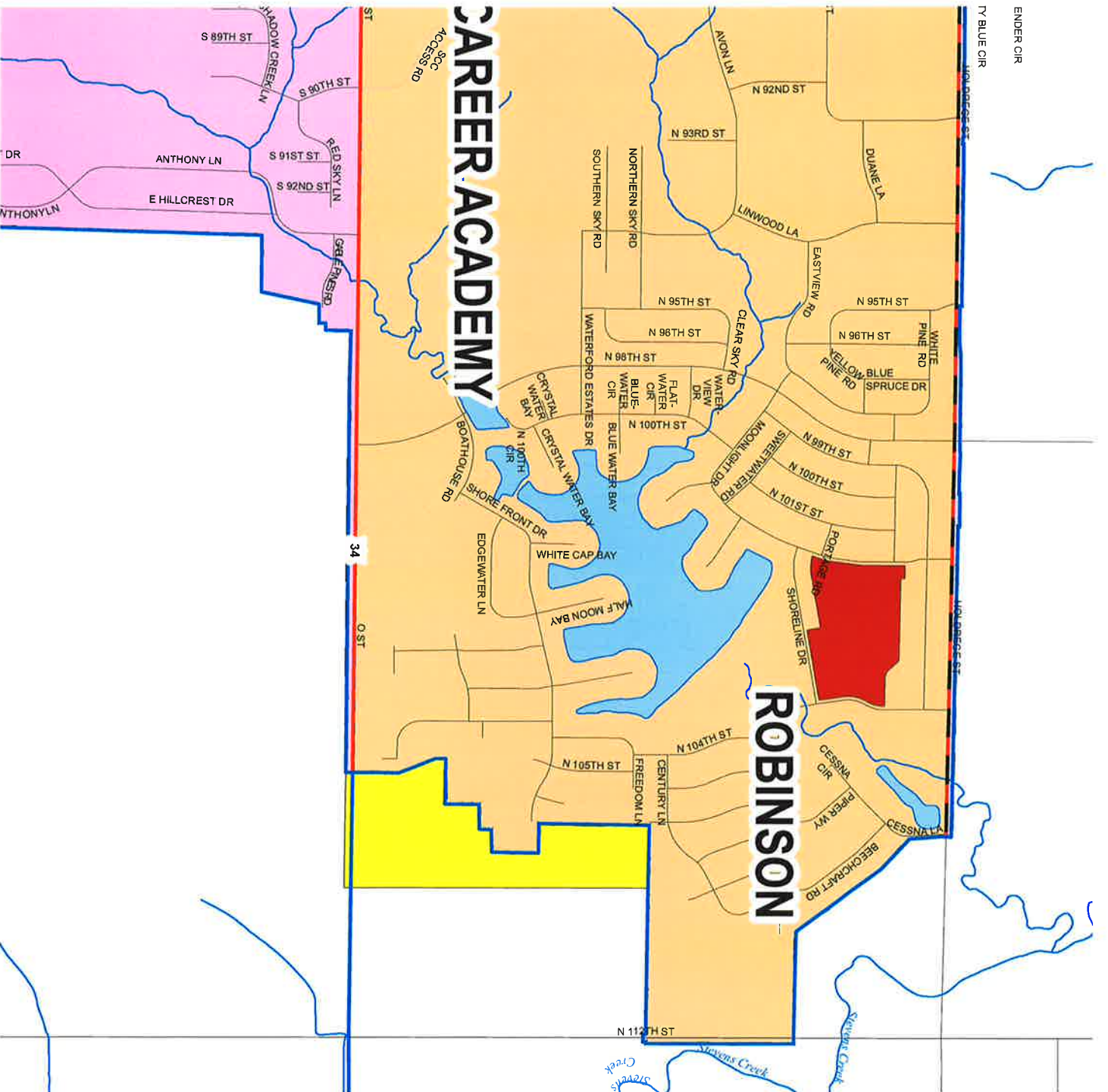
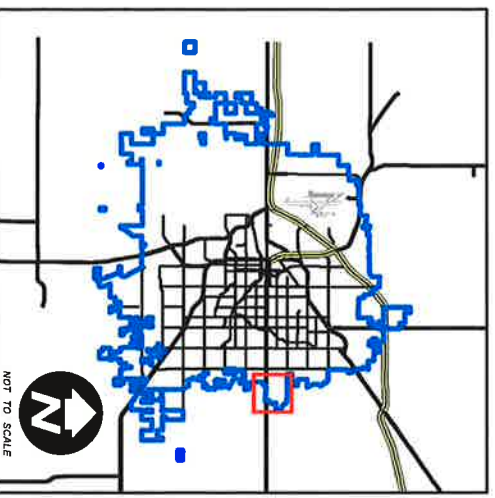
City of Lincoln Information

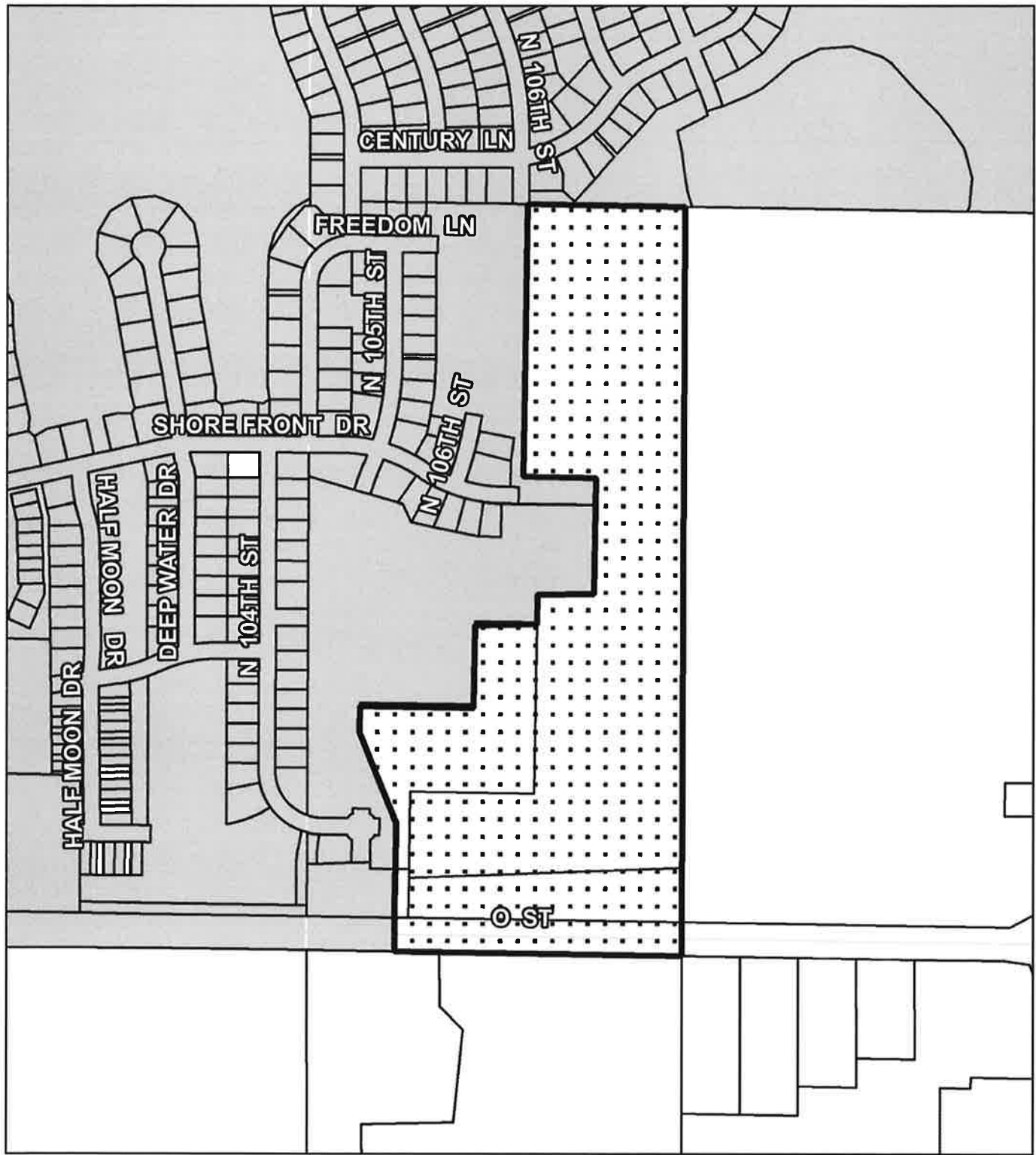
Annexation Number: 21002
 Ordinance Number: 21085
 Name: Dominion at Stevens Creek
 Effective: July 27, 2021
 Size: 43.78 Acres

Previous School District

#145 - Waverly




- Area of Annexation
- LPS District Boundary
- Lincoln City Limits
- Elementary Attendance Area
- High School Attendance Area
- Middle School Attendance Area

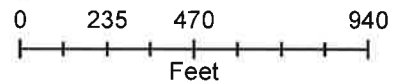




**Annexation by Ordinance
N 110th St & O St
Effective: July 27, 2021**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  City Limits Before Annexation



City of Lincoln Annexation & Affected LPS Boundaries

Assigned LPS Schools

Norwood Park Elementary School
 Dawes Middle School
 Northeast High School

LPS School Board District

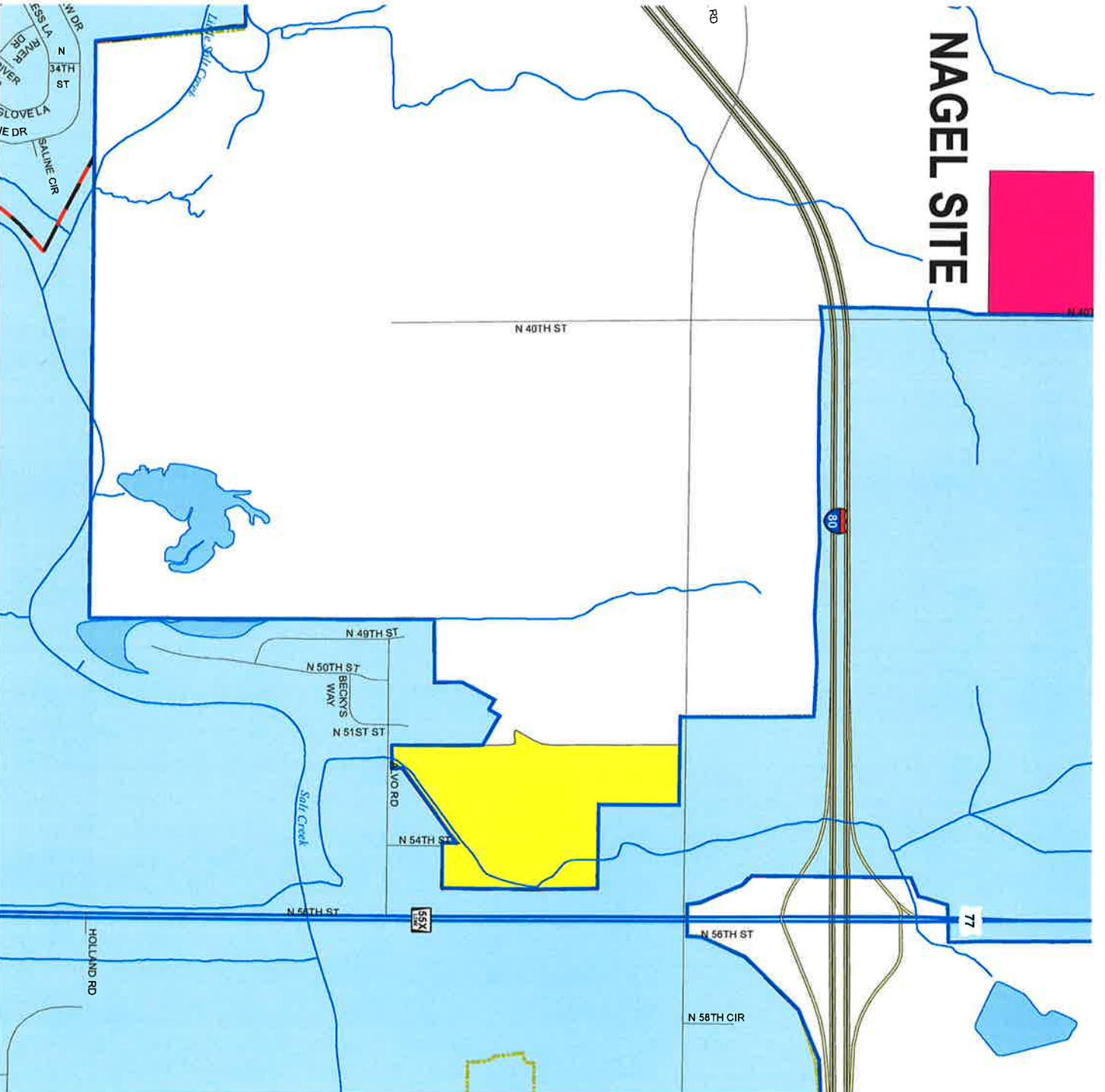
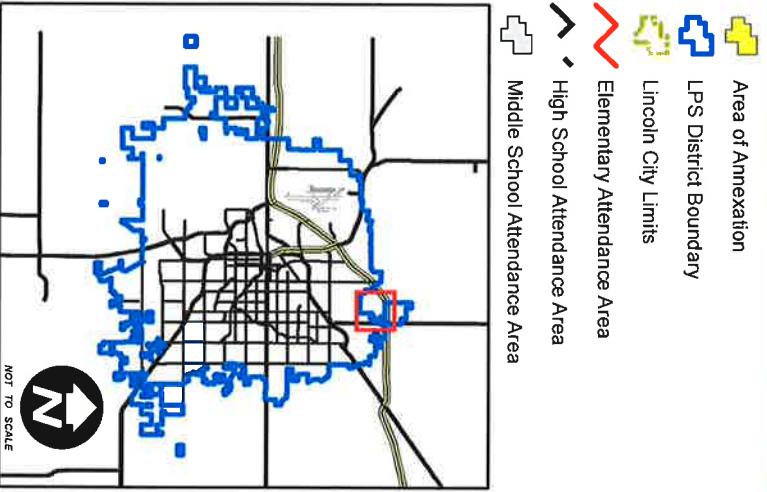
District 1

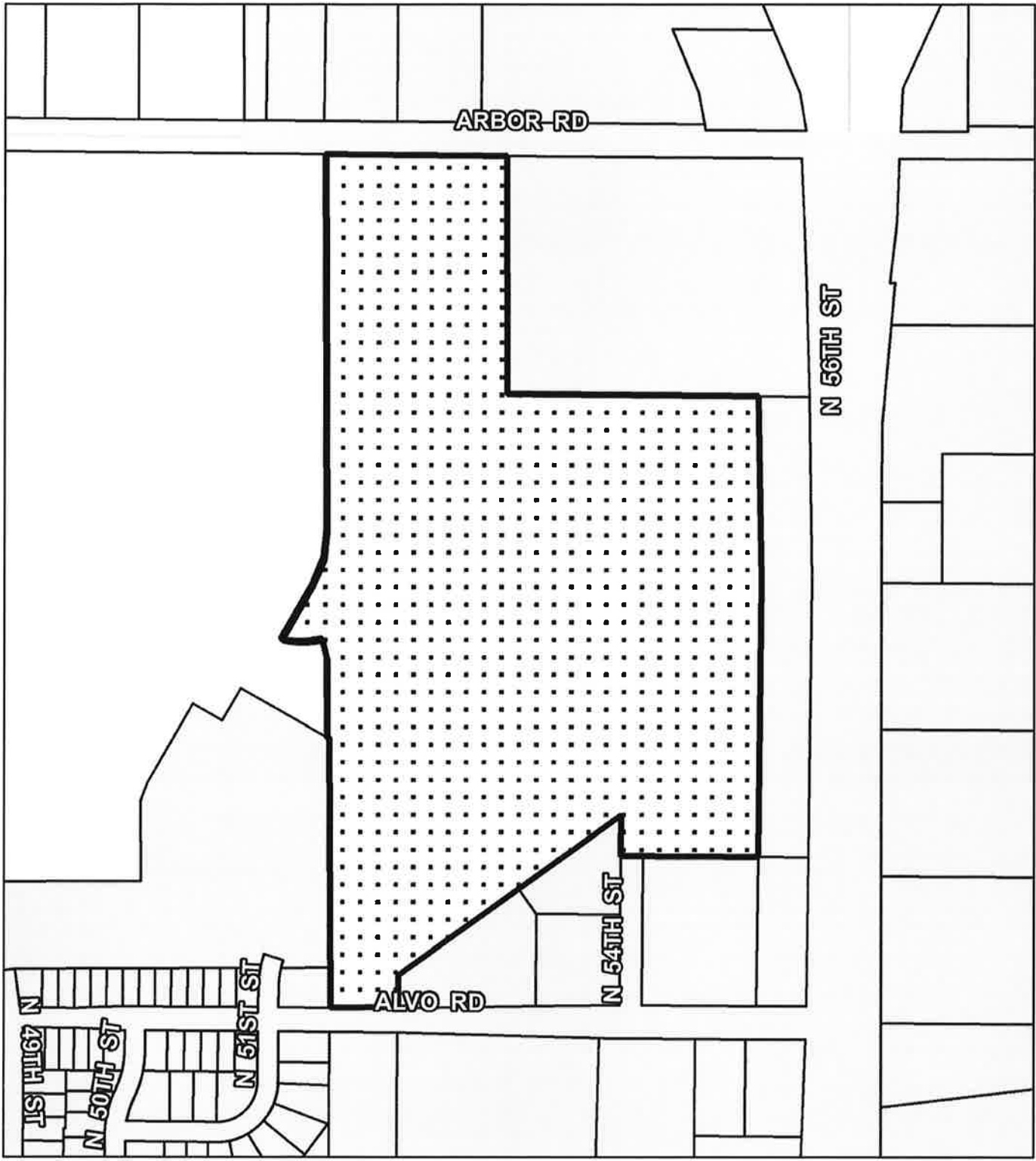
City of Lincoln Information

Annexation Number: 21005
 Ordinance Number: 21258
 Name: Salt Bank Business Park
 Effective: May 10, 2022
 Size: 53.27 Acres

Previous School District




#145 - Waverly

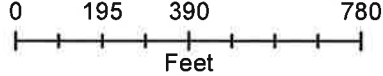




**Annexation by Ordinance
N 56th St & Arbor Rd
Effective: May 10, 2022**



-  Area of Annexation
-  Tax Parcels
-  Current City Limits



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79-1205. Annual adjustment to boundaries; State Board of Education; duties.

On or before August 1 of each year, the State Board of Education shall adjust the boundaries of any educational service unit the boundaries of which do not align with the boundaries of the member school districts on August 1 of such year. Such boundary adjustments shall align the boundaries of the educational service unit with the boundaries of the member school districts as the boundaries of the member school districts existed on August 1 of such year. Such boundary adjustments shall be referred to the appropriate county and educational service unit officials, and such officials shall implement the adjustments and make the necessary changes in the educational service unit maps and tax records.

Source: Laws 2007, LB603, § 10; Laws 2015, LB525, § 25.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: June 3, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Brad Dirksen, Administrator
Micki Charf, Director of Accreditation

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant conditional approval under Rule 14 (92 NAC 14), *Regulations & Procedures for the Legal Operation of Approved Nonpublic Schools*, for the following applicant nonpublic school to add Kindergarten in the 2022-2023 school year:

- Alleluia! Preschool & Kindergarten, Elkhorn, NE

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Representatives of the school have complied with the application procedures of Rule 14. Staff members of the Accountability, Accreditation, and Program Approval Office completed an on-site visit and reviewed requirements of Rule with school representatives. Based on these discussions and observations, NDE representatives have determined that the school is prepared to meet Rule 14 requirements in the 2022-23 school year. A visit will be conducted after the beginning of the school year to verify continued compliance with Rule 14.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: None

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source:
- New or Renewal:
- If renewal, date of first approval:



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: June 3, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Brad Dirksen, Administrator
Micki Charf, Director of Accreditation

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve accreditation for schools appearing on the accompanying list for the 2022-2023 school year in accordance with the provisions of Rule 10, (92 NAC 10), *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: All public school districts and accredited nonpublic schools submitted a Statement of Assurance indicating compliance (or areas of noncompliance) with Rule 10 for the 2021-2022 school year. Any school having a violation has documented the needed corrections by February 1, 2022.

Based on information reviewed, the schools on the attached list were found to be in compliance with accreditation regulations in Rule 10.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: None

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source:
- New or Renewal:
- If renewal, date of first approval:

Nebraska Accredited School Systems
 In Accordance with Rule 10
“Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools”

2022-2023 School Year

(Any schools dissolving, merging, or unifying for the 2021-2022 school year will be accredited under the new name.)

Class II through V School Districts (Total 244)

Adams Central Public Schools	Chadron Public Schools	Gering Public Schools
Ainsworth Community Schools	Chambers Public Schools	Gibbon Public Schools
Allen Consolidated Schools	Chase County Schools	Giltner Public Schools
Alliance Public Schools	Clarkson Public Schools	Gordon-Rushville Schools
Alma Public Schools	Cody-Kilgore Public School	Gothenburg Public Schools
Amherst Public Schools	Columbus Public Schools	Grand Island Public Schools
Anselmo-Merna Public Schools	Conestoga Public Schools	Gretna Public Schools
Ansley Public Schools	Cozad Community Schools	Hampton Public School
Arapahoe Public Schools	Crawford Public Schools	Hartington-Newcastle Public Schools
Arcadia Public Schools	Creek Valley Schools	Harvard Public Schools
Arlington Public Schools	Creighton Community Public Schools	Hastings Public Schools
Arnold Public Schools	Crete Public Schools	Hay Springs Public Schools
Arthur County Schools	Crofton Community Schools	Hayes Center Public Schools
Ashland Greenwood Schools	Cross County Community Schools	Heartland Community Schools
Auburn Public Schools	David City Public Schools	Hemingford Public Schools
Aurora Public Schools	Deshler Public Schools	Hershey Public Schools
Axtell Community Schools	Diller-Odell Public Schools	High Plains Community Schools
Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools	Doniphan-Trumbull Public Schools	Hitchcock County School System
Banner County Public Schools	Dorchester Public Schools	Holdrege Public Schools
Battle Creek Public Schools	Douglas County West	Homer Community Schools
Bayard Public Schools	Dundy County-Stratton Public Schools	Howells-Dodge Consolidated Schools
Beatrice Public Schools	East Butler Public Schools	Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer
Bellevue Public Schools	Elba Public Schools	Humphrey Public Schools
Bennington Public Schools	Elgin Public Schools	Hyannis Area Schools
Bertrand Public Schools	Elkhorn Public Schools	Isanti Community School
Blair Community Schools	Elkhorn Valley Schools	Johnson County Central Public Schools
Bloomfield Community Schools	Elm Creek Public Schools	Johnson-Brock Public Schools
Blue Hill Community Schools	Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools	Kearney Public Schools
Boone Central Schools	Elwood Public Schools	Kenesaw Public Schools
Boyd County Schools	Emerson-Hubbard Public School	Keya Paha County Schools
Brady Public Schools	Eustis-Farnam Public Schools	Kimball Public Schools
Bridgeport Public Schools	Exeter-Milligan Public Schools	Lakeview Community Schools
Broken Bow Public Schools	Fairbury Public Schools	Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Public Schools
Bruning-Davenport Unified	Falls City Public Schools	Leigh Community Schools
Burwell Public Schools	Fillmore Central Public Schools	Lewiston Consolidated Schools
Callaway Public Schools	Fort Calhoun Community Schools	Lexington Public Schools
Cambridge Public Schools	Franklin Public Schools	Leyton Public Schools
Cedar Bluffs Public Schools	Freeman Public Schools	Lincoln Public Schools
Centennial Public Schools	Fremont Public Schools	Litchfield Public Schools
Central City Public Schools	Friend Public Schools	Logan View Public Schools
Central Valley Public Schools	Fullerton Public Schools	Loomis Public Schools
Centura Public School	Garden County Schools	Louisville Public Schools

Loup City Public Schools	Pawnee City Public Schools	Sterling Public Schools
Loup County Public Schools	Paxton Consolidated Schools	Stuart Public Schools
Lyons-Decatur Northeast	Pender Public Schools	Summerland Public Schools
Madison Public Schools	Perkins County Schools	Sumner-Eddyville-Miller Schools
Malcolm Public Schools	Pierce Public Schools	Superior Public Schools
Maxwell Public Schools	Plainview Public Schools	Sutherland Public Schools
Maywood Public Schools	Plattsmouth Community Schools	Sutton Public Schools
McCook Public Schools	Pleasanton Public Schools	Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools
McCool Junction Public Schools	Ponca Public Schools	Tekamah-Herman Schools
McPherson County Schools	Potter-Dix Public Schools	Thayer Central Community Schools
Mead Public Schools	Ralston Public Schools	Theford Public Schools
Medicine Valley Public Schools	Randolph Public Schools	Tri County Public Schools
Meridian Public Schools	Ravenna Public Schools	Twin Rivers Public Schools
Milford Public Schools	Raymond Central School	Umo Ho Nation Public School
Millard Public Schools	Red Cloud Community Schools	Valentine Community Schools
Minatare Public Schools	Riverside Public Schools	Verdigre Public School
Minden Public Schools	Rock County Schools	Wahoo Public Schools
Mitchell Public Schools	Sandhills Public Schools	Wakefield Public Schools
Morrill Public Schools	Sargent Public Schools	Wallace Public School District 65R
Mullen Public Schools	Schuyler Community Schools	Walthill Public Schools
Nebraska City Public Schools	Scottsbluff Public Schools	Wauneta-Palisade Public Schools
Neligh-Oakdale Public Schools	Scribner-Snyder Community Schools	Wausa Public Schools
Newman Grove Public Schools	Seward Public Schools	Waverly School District 145
Niobrara Public Schools	Shelby-Rising City Public Schools	Wayne Community Schools
Norfolk Public Schools	Shelton Public Schools	Weeping Water Public Schools
Norris School District 160	Shickley Public Schools	West Holt Public Schools
North Bend Central School District	Sidney Public Schools	West Point Public School
North Platte Public Schools	Silver Lake Public Schools	Westside Community Schools
Northwest Public Schools	Sioux County Public Schools	Wheeler Central Schools
Oakland Craig Public Schools	South Central Unified	Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools
Ogallala Public Schools	South Platte Public School	Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools
Omaha Public Schools	South Sioux City Community Schools	Winnebago Public Schools
O'Neill Public Schools	Southern School District 1	Winside Public Schools
Ord Public Schools	Southern Valley Schools	Wisner-Pilger Public Schools
Osceola Public Schools	Southwest Public Schools	Wood River Rural Schools
Osmond Community Schools	Springfield Platteview Community Schools	Wynot Public Schools
Overton Public Schools	St Edward Public Schools	York Public Schools
Palmer Public Schools	St Paul Public School	Yutan Public Schools
Palmyra District OR-1	Stanton Community Schools	
Papillion-LaVista Public Schools	Stapleton Public Schools	

Accredited Nonpublic Schools (Total 82)

<u>City</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Albion	St Michael's Elementary School	(K-8)	Omaha	All Saints Catholic Schools	(K-8)
Atkinson	St Joseph's School	(K-8)	Omaha	Brownell Talbot College Prep School	(K-12)
Bellevue	Daniel J Gross High School	(9-12)	Omaha	Christ the King Catholic School	(K-8)
Bellevue	St Mary Elementary School	(K-8)	Omaha	Creighton Preparatory School	(9-12)
Bellevue	St Matthew the Evangelist School	(K-8)	Omaha	Duchesne Academy	(9-12)
Boys Town	Boys Town Schools	(K-12)	Omaha	Holy Cross Catholic School	(K-8)
Central City	Nebraska Christian Schools	(K-12)	Omaha	Holy Name School	(K-8)
Clarkson	St John Neumann Elementary	(1-6)	Omaha	Jesuit Academy	(4-8)
Columbus	Scotus Central Catholic	(7-12)	Omaha	Madonna School	(K-8)
Columbus	St Anthony School	(K-6)	Omaha	Marian High School	(9-12)
Columbus	St Bonaventure School	(K-8)	Omaha	Mary Our Queen Elementary	(K-8)
Columbus	St Isidore Elementary School	(K-6)	Omaha	Mercy High School	(9-12)
Creighton	St Ludger Elementary School	(K-6)	Omaha	Nelson Mandela School	(K-6)
Crofton	St Rose of Lima Elementary School	(1-8)	Omaha	Omaha Christian Academy	(K-12)
David City	Aquinas Catholic Schools	(K-12)	Omaha	Our Lady of Lourdes Elementary	(K-8)
Dodge	St Wenceslaus Elementary School	(K-6)	Omaha	Roncalli Catholic High School	(9-12)
Elgin	Pope John XXIII High School	(7-12)	Omaha	Sacred Heart Elementary School	(K-8)
Elgin	St Boniface Elementary School	(K-6)	Omaha	Skutt Catholic High School	(9-12)
Elkhorn	Mt Michael Benedictine HS	(9-12)	Omaha	St Bernadette Catholic School	(K-8)
Elkhorn	St Patrick's Catholic School	(K-8)	Omaha	St Bernard Elementary School	(K-8)
Falls City	Sacred Heart Schools	(K-12)	Omaha	St Cecilia Cathedral School	(K-8)
Fremont	Archbishop Bergan Elementary	(K-6)	Omaha	St James-Seton Elementary School	(K-8)
Fremont	Archbishop Bergan School	(7-12)	Omaha	St Joan of Arc Elementary School	(K-8)
Grand Island	Central Catholic Schools	(6-12)	Omaha	St Margaret Mary Elementary	(K-8)
Hartington	Cedar Catholic High School	(7-12)	Omaha	St Philip Neri Elementary School	(K-8)
Hartington	East and West Catholic School	(K-8)	Omaha	St Pius X/St Leo Elementary	(K-8)
Hartington	Holy Trinity Elementary School	(K-6)	Omaha	St Robert Bellarmine Elementary	(K-8)
Hastings	Hastings Catholic Schools	(K-12)	Omaha	St Stephen the Martyr	(K-8)
Howells	Howells Community Catholic	(K-6)	Omaha	St Thomas More Elementary	(K-8)
Humphrey	St Francis Schools	(K-12)	Omaha	St Vincent dePaul Elementary	(K-8)
Kearney	Kearney Catholic Schools	(6-12)	Omaha	St Wenceslaus School	(K-8)
Lincoln	Lincoln Christian Schools	(K-12)	Omaha	Sts Peter & Paul Elementary	(K-8)
Lincoln	Lincoln Lutheran MS/HS	(6-12)	O'Neill	St Mary's Schools	(K-12)
Lincoln	Parkview Christian	(K-12)	Osmond	St Mary Elementary School	(K-8)
Lincoln	Pius X High School	(9-12)	Papillion	St Columbkille Catholic School	(K-8)
Lindsay	Holy Family School	(1-12)	Ralston	St Gerald Elementary School	(K-8)
Madison	St Leonard's Elementary School	(K-6)	So. Sioux City	St Michael Elementary School	(K-8)
Nebraska City	Neb. City Lourdes Central Catholic	(K-12)	Wahoo	Bishop Neumann High School	(7-12)
Norfolk	Lutheran High Northeast	(9-12)	Wayne	St Mary Elementary School	(K-6)
Norfolk	Norfolk Catholic Schools	(K-12)	West Point	Guardian Angels Central Catholic	(K-12)
North Platte	North Platte Catholic Schools	(K-12)	Winnebago	St Augustine Elementary School	(K-8)

Special Purpose Schools (Total 5)

<u>City</u>	<u>School</u>
Chadron	Pine Ridge Job Corps
Hastings	West Hastings Schools
Kearney	West Kearney High School
Lincoln	University of Nebraska High School
Omaha	Nebraska Correctional Youth Facility



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 13, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Leigh Community Schools

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Leigh Community Schools is seeing a large enrollment increase. To serve all children anticipated to enroll in the early childhood program the school must add an early childhood teacher. The school is having difficulty hiring teachers for both the early childhood program and the k-12 classrooms. The candidate that the district would like to hire for their prekindergarten program has a degree in another discipline (not education) and has been the paraprofessional in the current early childhood classroom for the past 5 years. She is enrolled in a teacher education program and is dedicated to completing her degree and obtaining a teaching certificate.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING: June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 23, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Wheeler Central Public Schools

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Wheeler Central operates a comprehensive early childhood program. This program provides early education and child care for the young children in the district. Because the school district operates the program, it must meet the requirements of the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 11: Regulations for the Approval of Prekindergarten Programs Established by School Boards or Educational Service Units and for the Issuance of Early Childhood Education Grants. The early childhood program has a teacher vacancy for the 2022-2023 school year. The position was advertised in the “Teach in Nebraska” website. There were no applicants. The district then reached out to two individuals who the district had interviewed for an elementary position that was open. One of those individuals did not return their call, the other one declined the early childhood position. The school district then reached out to a current substitute teacher. The substitute has a bachelor’s degree in early childhood education, but did not previously pursue teacher certification. The substitute teacher will be required to complete the coursework and associated requirements to obtain a Nebraska teaching certificate.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING: June, 2022

ESTIMATED COST: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Brad Dirksen, and Kelly Heineke, Accountability, Accreditation and Program Approval

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Approve the educator preparation programs in Nebraska colleges and universities for July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska statute 79-318(5)(g) requires the State Board of Education to approve teacher education programs conducted in Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions designed for the purpose of certifying teachers and administrators.

Each Nebraska educator preparation institution is required to submit an annual request for approval of the programs which will be offered in the upcoming academic year. The annual request includes an assurance statement that the institution is in compliance with the requirements of 92 NAC 20, Regulations for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs. In addition, a current matrix which identifies the required courses which meet the requirements for each certificate endorsement offered by the institution is filed with the Accountability, Accreditation and Program Approval office for review to determine compliance with 92 NAC 24, Regulations for Certificate Endorsements. The report of Nebraska institutions seeking program approval, along with the endorsements offered by each institution, is attached.

In addition to the annual approval process, Midland University participated in the cyclical program approval process which occurs every seven years and includes an offsite and onsite review of the educator preparation programs at the University. Midland University has met the standards for both the offsite and onsite review and is recommended for approval by the State Board.

All current information and data submitted for purposes of documenting compliance with Rule 20 and Rule 24 annual approval requirements are reviewed by the Accountability, Accreditation and Program Approval section staff and is maintained in the section files.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

June 2022

ESTIMATED COST:

N/A

2022-2023

**Teacher Preparation Programs
in
Nebraska
Colleges and Universities**



(Office of Educator Preparation Program Approval / May, 2022)

Degree Codes:
B – Bachelor’s **M – Master’s**
S - Specialist **D - Doctorate**

Endorsement Codes:
F - Field **S - Subject**
G - Graduate **SP - Supplemental**

	Bellevue University	Chadron State College	College of Saint Mary	Concordia University	Creighton University	Doane University	Hastings College	Midland University	NE Wesleyan University	Peru State College	Union College	University of NE-Kearney	University of NE-Lincoln	University of NE-Omaha	Wayne State College	York College
Highest Certification Degree Granted	B	M	M	M	M	D	M	M	B	M	B	S	D	D	S	B
Level of Accreditation:																
CAEP/AAQEP		X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Higher Learning Commission (formerly NCA)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
State	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Administrative Endorsements																
Principal (G) (F) PK-12, PK-8, 7-12		X		X	X	X		X				PK-8 7-12	X	X	X	
Special Education Supervisor (G) (F) B-12		X										X	X	X	X	
Superintendent (G) (F) PK-12						X						X	X	X	X	
Teaching Endorsements																
Adapted Physical Education (SP) PK-12												X		X		
Agricultural Education (F) 6-12				† X									X			
American Sign Language (S) or (SP) K-8, 7-12, K-12				(SP) K-12												
Anthropology (S) 7-12																
Art (F) PK-12		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X	X	
Bilingual Education (SP) PK-12, K-6, 4-9, 7-12												† PK- 12	K-6 7-12	K-6 7-12		
Biology (S) 7-12	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
BMIT (Business, Marketing & Info Tech) (F) 6-12	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Chemistry (S) 7-12	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Coaching (SP) 7-12	X	X		X		X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Driver Education (SP) 7-12																
Early Childhood Education (SP) PK-3		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	

X - Endorsement program offered for all levels. † - Indicates new program offering beginning in 2022-2023. Endorsements listed in BOLD were recently reviewed by NCTE.

*D – Indicates program is dropped effective 2022-2023; no new candidates accepted. Previously enrolled candidates are allowed to complete.

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		Bellevue University	Chadron State College	College of Saint Mary	Concordia University	Creighton University	Doane University	Hastings College	Midland University	NE Wesleyan University	Peru State College	Union College	University of NE-Kearney	University of NE-Lincoln	University of NE-Omaha	Wayne State College	York College
Early Childhood Inclusive (F) <i>(formerly ECEU)</i>	B-3		X	X	X						X		X	X	X	X	
Earth and Space Science (S)	7-12		X											X			
Economics (S)	7-12																
Elementary Education (F)	K-6, K-8	†K-8	K-8	K-6	K6, K8	K-8	K-6	K-8	K-8	K-6	K-8	K-6, K-8	K-6	K-6	K-6	K-8	K-8
English As A Second Language (SP) PK-12, PK-6, 4-9, 7-12		PK-12		PK-12	PK-12	PK-12 PK-6 7-12	PK-12 PK-6 7-12	PK-12	PK-12 PK-6 7-12		PK-12		PK-12	PK-6 7-12	PK-6 7-12	PK-12	
English Language Arts (F)	7-12		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Family & Consumer Sciences Occupational (F) 6-12			X											X		X	
Geography (S)	7-12				X								X			X	
Health Education (S)	7-12	X	X										X		X		
Health & Physical Education (F)	PK-12	X	X				X	X	X	X	X		X			X	
Health Sciences Education (F)	6-12																
Health Sciences Education (SP)	6-12		X											X		X	
High Ability Education (SP)	K-12								X				X				
History (S)	7-12	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X
Information Technology (SP)	PK-12	X			X				X				X	X	X	X	
Instructional Technology Leadership (SP)	PK-12				X								X	X	X		
Journalism & Media Education (SP)	7-12				X									X		X	
Mathematics (F)	6-12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Middle Level Education (S)	5-9	X	X	X	X		X				X		X		X	X	
Middle Level Endorsement Academic Areas:																	
<i>English Language Arts</i>		X	X	X	X		X				X		X		X	X	
<i>Mathematics</i>		X	X	X	X		X				X		X		X	X	
<i>Science</i>		X	X	X	X		X				X		X		X	X	

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SP - Supplemental

		Bellevue University	Chadron State College	College of Saint Mary	Concordia University	Creighton University	Doane University	Hastings College	Midland University	NE Wesleyan University	Peru State College	Union College	University of NE-Kearney	University of NE-Lincoln	University of NE-Omaha	Wayne State College	York College
<i>Social Science</i>		X	X	X	X		X				X		X		X	X	
<i>Agricultural Education</i>											X						
<i>Business Marketing Info Technology-BMIT</i>			X								X						
<i>Family and Consumer Sciences Education</i>			X													X	
<i>Health and Physical Education</i>			X		X						X					X	
<i>Industrial Technology Education</i>																	
<i>World Language</i> (C=Chinese, F=French, G=German, S=Spanish)					S												
Music (F) PK-12			X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Specialist Special Services B-21														X			
Physical Education (S) PK-12, PK-6, 7-12	7-12		PK-6 7-12		PK-12 7-12		X		PK-12	PK-12			X		PK-12 7-12	PK-6 7-12	PK-12
Physics (S) 7-12					X			X		X			X	X	X		
Political Science (S) 7-12													X			X	
Psychology (S) 7-12		X			X								X			X	
Reading and Writing (SP) PK-6, 7-12				X			X									X	7-12
Reading Specialist (G) (S) PK-12			X		X		X						X	X	X	X	
Religious Education (S) K-12, PK-6, 7-12				K-12	K-12	7-12						K-12					
ROTC (S) 9-12																	
School Counselor (G) (F) PK-12 (S) PK-8, 7-12			X		PK-12	X	PK-12						PK-8 7-12	PK-8 7-12	PK-12	X	
School Librarian (F) PK-12													X		X		
School Psychologist (F) (G) PK-12													X	X	X		
Science (F) 7-12		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	*D
Secondary English (S) 7-12		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Secondary Transition Specialist (G) (SP) 7-12																	

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Endorsement Codes:
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	Bellevue University	Chadron State College	College of Saint Mary	Concordia University	Creighton University	Doane University	Hastings College	Midland University	NE Wesleyan University	Peru State College	Union College	University of NE-Kearney	University of NE-Lincoln	University of NE-Omaha	Wayne State College	York College
Skilled and Technical Sciences Education (F) 6-12													X		X	
Skilled & Technical Sciences-Skilled Specific (SP) 9-12													X		X	
Social Science (F) 7-12	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sociology (S) 7-12												X			X	
Special Education Generalist (F) K-12 (S) K-6, 7-12	†7-12	K-12	K-6 7-12	X		X	K-12	X	K-6 7-12	X		X	X	K-6 7-12	X	K-12
Special Education-Behavior Intervention Specialist (G) (SP) B-12, PK-6, 7-12												B-12	B-12	PK-6 7-12		
Special Education-Deaf or Hard of Hearing (S) B-12, PK-6, 7-12													B-12	PK-6 7-12		
Special Education-Early Childhood (G) (S) B-K		X		X									X			
Special Education-Early Intervention Specialist (SP) B-PK												X	X			
Special Education-Functional Academic Skills and Independent Living Specialist (G) (SP) B-12												X				
Special Education-Inclusion and Collaboration Specialist (G) (SP) PK-12												X		*D		
Special Education-Visual Impairment (S) B-12													X			
Speech (SP)				X									X		X	X
Special Program (S)																
Speech Language Pathologist (G) (F) B-21												X	X	X		
Theatre (SP) 7-12		X		X		X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X
Vocal Music (S) PK-12		X		X				X	X		X				X	X
Work-Based Learning (SP) 9-12 (formerly Cooperative Education/Distributive Occ)	X	X					X					X	X	X	X	
World Language (S) K-8, 7-12, K-12 (C=Chinese, F=French, G=German, L= Latin, R=Russian, S=Spanish)			S 7-12, K-12	C, S 7-12	F, S 7-12	S 7-12	S 7-12		F, G, S 7-12			F, G, S 7-12	C, F, G, L, R, S 7-12	F, G, S 7-12	S 7-12	

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Inquiries regarding state approval of teacher education programs leading to certification may be addressed to:
Nebraska Department of Education, Educator Preparation Program Approval

Kelly Heineke
kelly.heineke@nebraska.gov
500 S. 84th St., 2nd Floor
Lincoln, NE 68510-2611
402.314.4432

Specific program inquiries may be directed to the *Certification Official* listed for each institution of higher education:

BELLEVUE UNIVERSITY

Susan Alford
1000 Galvin Road South
Bellevue, NE 68005
402.557.7131
Email: salford@bellevue.edu

CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY

April Buschelman
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178
402.280.3583
Email: aprilbuschelman@creighton.edu

NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

Tanya Martin
5000 St. Paul Avenue
Lincoln, NE 68504
402.465.2307
Email: tmartin@nebrwesleyan.edu

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA – LINCOLN

Sara Skretta
CEHS, 116 Henzlik Hall, PO Box 880371
1400 R Street, Lincoln, NE 68588-0371
402.472.8626
FAX: 402.472.1701
Email: Sskretta2@unl.edu

CHADRON STATE COLLEGE

Dave Perkins
10th & Main
Chadron, NE 69337
308.432.6032
Email: dperkins@csc.edu

DOANE UNIVERSITY

Emily Griesch
1014 Boswell
Crete, NE 68333
402.826.8538
FAX: 402.826.6785
Email: emily.griesch@doane.edu

PERU STATE COLLEGE

Stephanie Holmes
PO Box 10 600 Hoyt Street
Peru, NE 68421
402.872.2399
FAX: 402.872.2414
Email: sholmes@peru.edu

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA – OMAHA

Huai-Mei Furman
Roskens Hall 204
6005 University Dr North, Omaha, NE 68182
402.554.2718
FAX: 402.554.2879
Email: mfurman@unomaha.edu

COLLEGE OF SAINT MARY

Lori Wewel
7000 Mercy Road
Omaha, NE 68106
402.399.2666
FAX: 402.399.2414
Email: lwewel@csm.edu

HASTINGS COLLEGE

Darci Karr
710 North Turner Avenue
Hastings, NE 68901
402.461.7304
FAX: 402.461.7490
Email: dkarr@hastings.edu

UNION COLLEGE

Peter Adams
3800 South 48th Street
Lincoln, NE 68506
402.486.2600
Email: peter.adams@ucollege.edu

WAYNE STATE COLLEGE

Brook Jech
1111 Main Street
Wayne, NE 68787
402.375.7373
FAX: 402.375.7414
Email: brjech1@wsc.edu

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Carlene Bauer
800 North Columbia
Seward, NE 68434
402.643.7475
Email: carlene.bauer@cune.edu

MIDLAND UNIVERSITY

Jamie Folkers
900 North Clarkson
Fremont, NE 68025
402.941.6449
Email: folkers@midlandu.edu

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA – KEARNEY

Jenny Jansky
905 West 25th Street
Kearney, NE 68849
308.865.8266
FAX: 308.865.8854
Email: janskyjl@unk.edu

YORK COLLEGE

Erin DeHart
1125 East 8th Street
York, NE 68467
402.363.5684
FAX: 402.363.5733
Email: edehart@york.edu

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National Association of
State Boards of Education

INVOICE

National Association of State Boards of Education

123 North Pitt St. #350
Alexandria, VA 22314

INVOICE #: FY23-40
DATE: 05/25/2022
DUE DATE: 06/25/2022

TOTAL AMOUNT: \$23,536.00
TOTAL DUE: \$23,536.00

BILL TO: Nebraska Department of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509

DESCRIPTION / MEMO	AMOUNT
2023 NASBE Membership Dues	\$23,406.00
2023 NCOSEA Membership Dues	\$130.00
TOTAL AMOUNT:	\$23,536.00

National Association of State Boards of Education

123 North Pitt St. #250
Alexandria, VA 22314

Customer ID - Name: C-00031 - Nebraska Department of Education
Invoice #: FY23-40

TOTAL DUE: \$23,536.00

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

NASBE has a relationship with John Marshall Bank. The account information is below:

JMB Routing # 056009356
Checking Account # 1000017457

REMIT TO: John Marshall Bank
640 Franklin St.
Alexandria, VA 22314



Council of Chief State School Officers
One Massachusetts Ave, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001
FEIN: 53-0198090

Customer #: 87949

Contact: Nebraska Department of Education
Matthew Blomstedt
301 Centennial Mall S
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln NE, 68508-2529

Membership Invoice

Invoice #: 358232
Invoice Date: 04/08/2022

Payment Terms: Net 30 Days

Prepared By: Michelle Singleton
Email: michelle.singleton@ccsso.org

Description	Terms	Qt	Price	Amount
Level 3 - State Membership	-	1	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00

Invoice Total:	\$45,000.00
Amount Paid:	\$0.00
PLEASE PAY:	\$45,000.00

PLEASE DETACH AND REMIT WITH YOUR PAYMENT

Invoice#: 358232

Customer #: 87949
Nebraska Department of Education
Matthew Blomstedt
301 Centennial Mall S
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln NE, 68508-2529

Remit Payment To:

Council of Chief State School Officers
Attn: Accounting Department
One Massachusetts Ave, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20001
202.336.7000

Balance Due:	\$45,000.00
---------------------	--------------------

Amt Remitted: _____

Payment Methods:

CHECK: Make payable to CCSSO and reference the invoice number above. Please enclose a copy of your check with payment.

ACH PAYMENT & WIRE TRANSFER: To pay your invoice electronically transfer funds following the below instructions:

Beneficiary Name: Council of Chief State School Officers
Beneficiary Account Number: 2000033021805
Routing/Transit Number: 12100248
Swift Code: WFBIUS6S
Bank Name: Wells Fargo Bank NA
Bank Address: 1753 Pinnacle Drive, McLean, VA 22102, USA

From: Stephen Bowen <Stephen.Bowen@ccsso.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2022 7:41 AM
To: Blomstedt, Matt <Matt.Blomstedt@nebraska.gov>
Cc: Rife, Laura <laura.rife@nebraska.gov>
Subject: CCSSO Annual Report and Membership Dues Invoice - NE

Dear Commissioner of Education Blomstedt,

The Council of Chief State School Officers is honored to represent you and the Nebraska Department of Education as a member, alongside every state education chief and agency across the country.

CCSSO Annual Report

We are pleased to share with you CCSSO's [Annual Report](#). The Annual Report includes information about the organization and our collective achievements in 2021.

Membership Invoice

CCSSO respectfully requests payment for the annual membership of the Nebraska Department of Education for the 2023 fiscal year, which extends from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. An invoice for your annual membership is attached. Your annual membership dues fund our work in federal advocacy, communications, rapid response, and support to state chiefs, deputies and other senior SEA leaders.

Senior Staff Verification

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to make sure our lists for key positions are up to date. Please confirm if the names below should be updated to receive future correspondence from CCSSO.

	Name(s)	Email(s)
Primary Deputy:	Deborah Frison	deborah.frison@nebraska.gov
Additional Senior Deputies to Receive Email Communications from CCSSO:	Deborah Frison Brian Halstead	deborah.frison@nebraska.gov brian.halstead@nebraska.gov
Communications Director:	Katie Bieber David Jespersen	katie.bieber@nebraska.gov david.jespersen@nebraska.gov
Equity Lead:	Zainab Rida	zainab.rida@nebraska.gov
Chief's Executive Assistant:	Laura Rife	laura.rife@nebraska.gov

Thanks,

Steve



Stephen Bowen

Deputy Executive Director, State Leadership
State Leadership

Email: Stephen.Bowen@ccsso.org

Office: 202-336-7055

Mobile: 207-230-9137

One Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20001
<https://www.ccsso.org>

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. Please note that any views or opinions presented in this email are solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of CCSSO.



Dr. Matthew Blomstedt
Commissioner
Nebraska Department of Education
PO Box 94987
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

INVOICE # 2023 NE

DATE: 05/13/2022

cc: Hon. Pete Ricketts

**Annual State Dues
For Nebraska
Interstate Compact for Education**

Dues for Fiscal Year 2023: 07/01/22 - 06/30/23 \$ 60,500.00

Due and payable by July 15, 2022

Please return a copy of the invoice with payment to ECS, Attention: Accounting Dept.—Dues
Invoice # 2023 NE
Education Commission of the States
700 Broadway, Suite 810
Denver, CO 80203

State Statutory Reference: NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 79-1501 to 79-1504

Fed. I.D. No. 31-0722194

Please direct inquiries on billing, including electronic payments, to: Matt Padilla, 303-299-3693.



EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES

Your education policy team.

ecs.org | @EdCommisslon

700 Broadway, Suite 810
Denver, CO 80203-3442

303.299.3600

Fax: 303.296.8332

OFFICERS 2021-23

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Kim Reynolds

Governor

State of Iowa

VICE CHAIR

Brittney Miller

Assemblywoman

Nevada State Assembly

TREASURER

Margie Vandeven

Commissioner

Department of Elementary
and Secondary Education

Missouri

PRESIDENT

Jeremy Anderson



May 13, 2022

Dr. Matthew Blomstedt
Commissioner
Nebraska Department of Education
PO Box 94987
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Dear Commissioner Blomstedt,

Looking back, 2021 was a year of states addressing and overcoming challenges, particularly those focused on continuity of education and support services for their students and communities. Education Commission of the States was proud to be a part of states' efforts this past year and remains fully committed to serving as your education policy partner to support efforts to advance education in your state.

You will find enclosed Nebraska's annual state dues invoice and the 2021 state support report. As you read through the services provided to your state over the past calendar year, we hope it demonstrates how your membership with Education Commission of the States provides the state with invaluable resources to meet your education policy goals. Education Commission of the States has kept state dues consistent for the past decade while continuously increasing our level of service.

With funding from state dues, Education Commission of the States works to provide the following services and resources for states:

- **Research:** We review the latest academic research and summarize it into concise, reader-friendly findings and policy implications for key education issues. We also maintain databases and resources that allow policymakers to quickly research policies in other states.
- **Report:** We regularly issue useful policy analyses, trends reports and comparisons of state policies — enacted or pending — on a wide variety of education topics. These reports provide concise, factual overviews of specific state education policies.
- **Counsel:** We provide unbiased advice on policy plans, review and consult on proposed policies, provide expert knowledge for state education work groups and testify at legislative hearings as third-party experts.
- **Convene:** We bring education leaders together both within states and across states. Through our two annual national convenings, regional meetings and issue-specific or role-specific meetings, we create opportunities for policymakers to interact, learn and collaborate.

While providing these services, Education Commission of the States remains nonpartisan and unbiased. We do not advocate for specific policies and we only provide impartial, factual information and resources. These unique qualities make Education Commission of the States a trusted and valued education policy partner.

The most effective policy occurs when all state education leaders are involved. That is why we are the only national education policy organization to work with the full range of education leaders. Rather than focus on a single constituent group, we work with governors, legislators, chief state school officers, state board members, higher education officials, business leaders and teachers.

Challenges like funding or accountability do not affect just one level of education; they cross the full range. Because of this, we cover all education issues from early learning through postsecondary and the workforce and are uniquely positioned to help state policymakers craft the best education policy for your students.

As your partner in education policy, we look forward to further conversations about how we can continue to serve your state. We appreciate your prompt payment so we can continue to provide quality and timely services to your state.

Sincerely,



Kim Reynolds
Governor, State of Iowa
2021-2023 Chair, Education Commission of the States



Jeremy Anderson
President, Education Commission of the States

cc: Hon. Pete Ricketts



- **Presentation** to the Nebraska Association of School Boards Directors on COVID-19 education policy responses and Education Commission of the States supports and services.
- **Presentation** to a Nebraska working group on teacher diversity on state policies to diversify the educator workforce.
- **Presentation** to the CCSO Career Readiness Collaborative on workforce development policies.
- **Hosted state legislative staff** for a series of virtual and in-person professional development and networking opportunities, along with ECS' partners at the National Conference for State Legislatures.
- **State Information Requests:** Answered twelve requests for information on the following topics: curriculum, ESSA, gifted and talented, school climate and safety, school funding, state standards and teacher quality.

Research

In 2021, Education Commission of the States monitored, compiled and shared the following research that included examples of state education policy in Nebraska:

- **50-State Comparisons:** In 2021, we released nine 50-State Comparisons covering the full spectrum of education policy issues, including [K-12 and Special Education Funding](#) and [States' School Accountability Systems](#), as well as [Need- and Merit-Based Financial Aid](#) and [Education and Workforce Development Connections](#).
- **State Education Policy Tracking:** In 2021, we tracked, summarized and entered 12 enacted and/or vetoed Nebraska bills in our [State Education Policy Tracking](#) resource. Additionally, Education Commission of the States closely monitors policy actions, including pending, enacted and vetoed bills on several key education issues in our 2022 [State Education Policy Watchlist](#).
- **Governors' State of the State Addresses:** This was our 17th year tracking education-related proposals from governors' annual State of the State addresses. We provide ongoing, up-to-date analysis in an [online resource](#), and later, we compile top trends and other findings in a [report](#).
- Nebraska was highlighted in the policy brief [State Policy Options to Promote K-12 Integration](#).

Convenings

In 2021, Education Commission of the States welcomed attendees from Nebraska at 14 convenings listed below:

- Virtual Forum on Education Policy (*18 registrants*)
- Arts Education Partnership Virtual Gathering (*7 registrants*)
- Partnering for Success Webinar Series: State Policy Initiatives for Supporting Academic Growth (*3 registrants*)
- Partnering for Success Webinar Series: Supporting Student Mental Health with Medicaid Funds (*4 registrants*)
- Arts and Juvenile Justice Policy Briefing: January (*3 registrants*)
- AEP National Town Hall for Local Arts Education Supervisors (*4 registrants*)
- Rural Perceptions on Education: Consideration for Policy Makers (*5 registrants*)
- Partnering for Success Webinar Series: Advancing Credential Transparency for Economic Recovery (*3 registrants*)
- Data Privacy Lessons from the Pandemic Virtual Series | Webinar I: Protecting Student Privacy Through Data Governance (*1 registrant*)
- Data Privacy Lessons from the Pandemic Virtual Series | Webinar II: Protecting Students' Privacy While Measuring Their Health and Well-Being (*2 registrants*)
- Data Privacy Lessons from the Pandemic Virtual Series | Webinar III: Student Privacy and the Promise of EdTech (*1 registrant*)
- FAFSA First: States Move to Update High School Graduation Requirements (*3 registrants*)
- LESN Summer Seminar (*4 registrants*)
- Executive Directors Policy Forum (*1 registrant*)



Nebraska

January 1 – December 31, 2021

Serving as partners to state policymakers, Education Commission of the States provides nonpartisan information, personalized support and opportunities for collaboration. We believe that informed policymakers create better education policy. As the essential, indispensable member of your state education policy team, we:

- **Remain nonpartisan and unbiased.**
- **Serve all education leaders**, including governors, legislators, chief state school officers, state board members, higher education officials, business leaders and teachers.
- **Cover the full education spectrum** from early learning through postsecondary and the workforce.

Education Commission of the States receives most of our funding from the states and territories we serve. With funding from state dues, Education Commission of the States works to research, report, counsel and convene. This state support summary outlines the direct services provided to Nebraska by Education Commission of the States.

Current Education Commission of the States Commissioners

Each state appoints Commissioners who help guide our work and their own state's education agendas. Commissioners provide strategic information to our staff regarding key state education policy issues. One Commissioner in each state is appointed to serve as the Steering Committee member to provide leadership among their state's Commissioners.

Nebraska Statute Authorizing the Compact for Education: **R.S.N. Secs. 79-1501 to 79-1504**

Nebraska Appointed Commissioners* (bold denotes Steering Committee member):

Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner, Nebraska Department of Education

Pete Ricketts, Governor, State of Nebraska

Mike Baumgartner, Executive Director, Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Adam Morfeld, State Senator, Nebraska State Unicameral Legislature

Rich Pahls, State Senator, Nebraska State Unicameral Legislature

John Spatz, Executive Director, Nebraska Association of School Boards

Lynne Walz, Chair, Senate Education Committee, Nebraska State Unicameral Legislature

**as of March 15, 2022*

Counsel

In 2021, Nebraska ECS Commissioners and other key state education leaders reached out to Education Commission of the States and received the following support:

- **Testimony** to the Nebraska Legislative School Finance Study Committee on education funding models.
- In partnership with REL Central, **technical assistance** and professional development provided to state department of education staff in the REL Central region.

ECS Services and Supports

Counsel

Education Commission of the States provides personalized state support, including unbiased advice on policy plans, consultation on proposed policy legislation and testimony, and presentations as third-party experts.

Research

Many states face similar education challenges. By sharing research about what has worked and what has not, states learn from each other without recreating the wheel. Education Commission of the States compiles information on education policies from early childhood through postsecondary education and the workforce so state policymakers can make informed decisions.

Reports

Education Commission of the States believes in the power of learning from experience. Our reports highlight state policy examples so policymakers in all states gain the insight needed to create effective education policy.

Convenings

Education Commission of the States brings education leaders together within states and across states. Through two annual, national convenings, regional meetings and issue-specific or role-specific meetings, we create opportunities for policymakers to interact, learn and collaborate.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone and Kris Elmshaeuser

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Network Projects

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In 2002, five (5) ASD Regions were established across Nebraska to provide support for Nebraska schools and families impacted by autism spectrum disorders. In addition to the five ASD Regional Coordinators and five Behavioral consultants, an ASD Network State Coordinator is housed at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln to coordinate the services of the ASD Network. The Nebraska ASD Network is funded by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), Office of Special Education through Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) funds.

The Nebraska Department of Education developed the ASD network to provide training and technical assistance to local early childhood providers, school districts, educational service units and parents of children with autism spectrum disorders for children birth to age 21. The ASD Network works to build school district capacity in providing quality, individualized programming for students with autism using evidence-based practices and interventions; however, the network does not provide direct services. It is the responsibility of Nebraska school districts to assure that all children with ASD have a free and appropriate public education (FAPE), which includes special education and related services that meet their unique needs.

Each of the ASD regions covers specific ESUs within that region (see estimated cost section for details). This is a collaborative partnership with five ESUs, and UNL with the proposed allocated amounts for each agency listed in the estimated cost section.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST:

Recipient: UNL- ASD State Coordinator and behavioral consultant (covers statewide support to network)

Project Amount: \$357,995

Recipient: ESU13-Western ASD Region (covers ESUs 13, 16, and 17)
Project Amount: \$219,490 (includes coordinator and behavioral consultant)

Recipient: ESU10- Central ASD Region (covers ESUs 9, 10, 11, 15, parts of 16 and 17)
Project Amount: \$262,064 (includes coordinator and behavioral consultant)

Recipient: ESU6- Southeast ASD Region (covers ESUs 4, 5, 6, and 18)
Project Amount: \$269,580 (includes coordinator and behavioral consultant)

Recipient: ESU7- Northeast ASD Region (covers ESUs 1, 7, and 8)
Project Amount: \$240,399 (includes coordinator and behavioral consultant)

Recipient: ESU3- Metro ASD Region (covers ESUs 2, 3, and 19)
Project Amount: \$358,579 (includes coordinator and behavioral consultant)

Total awarded for ASD Network projects: \$1,708,107

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: All projects are Federal IDEA Part B and Part C funds. All projects run from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023
- New or Renewal: All are renewals
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2002-03, but yearly since that timeframe. Last renewed June 2020



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone and Amy Bunnell

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue funding the Early Childhood MTSS Regional Facilitators

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: To meet requirements related to qualified personnel and comprehensive system of personnel development. The Pyramid Model is an evidence-based practice that supports the MTSS framework for early childhood. The Pyramid Model provides a layered continuum of supports matched to the child need but in order to fully implement and sustain the practices learned personnel need training and coaching. Through NeMTSS, our state is organizationally structured into 5 regions to support Nebraska schools and programs in the development of their MTSS Framework and Systems. The Pyramid Model fits within the MTSS Framework as an evidence-based practice to support young children and prevent and address challenging behaviors.

The Early Childhood MTSS Regional Facilitator is aligned to the NeMTSS region with a teaming approach including the NeMTSS Regional Facilitator, and Early Learning Coordinator. The Early Childhood MTSS Regional Facilitator will provide coordination, technical assistance, training, and resources around the implementation of the Pyramid Model and other evidence-based practices to Nebraska Schools, ESUs, and Community-Based early childhood programs through regional support.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

Grantee: ESU #3 – Early Childhood MTSS Regional Implementation Facilitator
Project Amount: \$110,000

Grantee: ESU #6 – Early Childhood MTSS Regional Implementation Facilitator
Project Amount: \$110,000

Grantee: ESU #1 – EC MTSS Regional Implementation Facilitator
Project Amount: \$110,000

Grantee: ESU #10 - EC MTSS Regional Implementation Facilitator
Project Amount: \$110,000

Grantee: ESU #13 – EC MTSS Regional Implementation Facilitator
Project Amount: \$110,000

Project Duration: 9/1/22 to 8/31/23

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part B/619 and IDEA Part C
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: ESU 3 and 6 – 2020; ESU 1 and 10 – Jan. 2021; ESU 13 – April 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize Commissioner to continue to fund ESU 1 for NeMTSS State Leadership Position of NeMTSS State Coordinator

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: NeMTSS is a framework that promotes an integrated system connecting general education and special education, along with all components of teaching and learning, into a high quality, standards-based instruction and intervention system that is matched to a student's academic, social-emotional and behavior needs. The goal of the NeMTSS State Plan is to provide an overview for MTSS practices in Nebraska and provide supports to Nebraska Schools in the development of their MTSS Framework and Systems. ESU 1 has agreed to support the full FTE that this position will require by hosting the personnel at their location, supervising through ESU administrations, and providing fiscal management to the cooperative agreement at hand. ESU 1 will also provide office space and travel capabilities to the individual hired through the grant.

The NeMTSS State Leadership Position will provide coordination, technical assistance, training, and support to Nebraska Schools and ESUs through support to the Regional Leads, Implementation Support Specialists, and State Team. The State Leadership position will be a full-time position, providing support within the current NeMTSS State Leadership Team across the state in order to ensure equity amongst our Nebraska School Districts. The State Leadership position will serve on the NeMTSS State Collaborative Team, State PLC, state-side stakeholder (Builders), and build out the trainings and technical assistance needed throughout the region and state that is identified as needed. The coordination, technical assistance, training, and support will be provided through on-site training, building meetings, module development, webinars, etc. to Nebraska's School District and ESU personnel.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$190,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Funding Source: Federal IDEA-Part B
- Renewal: 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 20, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to enter into an Interagency Agreement between the Nebraska-Department of Health and Human Services/ServeNebraska.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) has received funding from ServeNebraska to have six half-time AmeriCorps members who will form the Nebraska Education Corps to help students that have experienced unfinished learning caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and connect underserved youth that are English Language Learners, homeless, and system involved youth at a greater risk of educational failure with services in schools throughout the state of Nebraska.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed \$64,768

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Nebraska-Department of Health and Human Services-ServeNebraska
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: August 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund NeMTSS Regional Lead for Educational Service Unit #1

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

NeMTSS is a framework that promotes an integrated system connecting general education and special education, along with all components of teaching and learning, into a high quality, standards-based instruction and intervention system that is matched to a student's academic, social-emotional and behavior needs. The goal of the NeMTSS State Plan is to provide an overview for MTSS practices in Nebraska and provide supports to Nebraska Schools in the development of their MTSS Framework and Systems. As such, it will chart the course for school-wide implementation from Pre-Kindergarten through graduation. The supports are devoted to explaining the essential elements of MTSS and the systematic implementation in schools. It is intended to help Nebraska Districts increase understanding of the various aspects of the system and to identify areas that warrant future professional development within a school setting. NeMTSS has been working to provide supports to school systems for over 12 years now. What began as a small grant within the University of Nebraska - Lincoln from the Department of Education has begun to build out a tiered system of support that now includes the grant with the University of Nebraska- Lincoln as well as NDE Consultants, a State Team, and Stakeholders informing decisions to build out Nebraska MTSS Support for schools.

The NeMTSS Regional Lead will provide coordination, technical assistance, training, and support to Nebraska Schools and ESUs through a regional support, dividing the state into three sections. The Lead will serve on the NeMTSS State Team (PLC) and build out the trainings and technical assistance needed throughout the region and state that is identified as needed. The coordination, technical assistance, training, and support will be provided through on-site training, building meetings, module development, webinars, etc. to Nebraska's School District and ESU personnel.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$162,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA-Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: December 2019



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 17, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund a grant with Nebraska's Hands and Voices for the implementation of the Guide-By-Your-Side to support families with infants, toddlers, and students who are deaf or hard of hearing.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This ongoing project is to coordinate and train Hands & Voices Parent Guides that are serving families of children birth to age 21 who are deaf or hard of hearing. The Parent Guides have real life experience in raising a child who is deaf or hard of hearing and are knowledgeable about issues in this journey. This project will work in collaboration with Nebraska's Regional Programs for DHH in making certain effective professional development, sharing of state and national resources and advocacy skills taught to the Parent Guides using a non-bias approach for communication.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$100,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part C-\$80,000; State General Funds Program 401 - \$20,000
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: First award was May 2015, and last funded May 2020



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 13, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue the Agreement between the Board of Regents (BOR), State of Iowa, on behalf of the Iowa School for the Deaf (ISD), and the Nebraska Department of Education to support Nebraska students who are identified as Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Agreements with the Iowa Board of Regents have been processed annually beginning in 1998 following the State Board's approval of the plan for "Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing." The Plan was reviewed and revised in 2020 and includes implementation through agreements with the Nebraska Regional Deaf/Hard of Hearing Network and the Iowa School for the Deaf.

Commencing with the 2022-23 school year, the Board of Regents, State of Iowa and NDE have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the following understandings:

- a. Effective for the 2022-23 academic year:
 - Fees for educational services, regardless of whether the student is also receiving residential services, will be billed by ISD to the responsible school district on a semester basis.
 - Fees for residential services will be billed by ISD to NDE on a monthly basis
 - Fees for transportation will be billed by ISD to the responsible school district on a semester basis
- b. Effective for the summer term, fees for program services will be billed directly to a participating student's family or a third-party agency who has agreed to be responsible for the fees, but will not be the responsibility of either NDE or the school district
- c. Prior to the renewal of the Agreements for the succeeding term, BOR and NDE shall evaluate the billing process agreed to in the MOU and determine whether the process should continue for the succeeding academic years and/or summer terms.

Additionally, districts must apply to NDE for residential services at ISD which NDE pays directly from a combination of earmarked state appropriations received for deaf/hard of hearing services (Program 401) and/or Special Education Aid (Program 158/48). The annual Agreement includes a per student rate for

Education/Related Services and for Residential/Dormitory Services. The rates for the 2022-23 school year continue to be based on actual costs for operation of the ISD program and the audited per pupil cost for Iowa students. Additionally, ISD coordinates transportation for Nebraska students on weekends and that cost is the responsibility of the school district. During the 2021-22 school year, of the 891 Nebraska children/youth reported as Deaf or Hard of Hearing as the primary disability, one student attended ISD for the entire school year or a portion of the school year who also received residential services. It is anticipated there may be at least one that will start the 2022-23 school year at ISD asking for residential services. It is anticipated there will be seven or eight students attending for educational services only and the districts paying for those services directly to ISD.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: (we will see an adjusted rate for 2022-23 once contract is complete)

Cost per Student:	<u>2021-22</u>	<u>2020-21</u>	<u>2019-20</u>
Education/Related Services Rate	\$61,906	\$60,488	\$60,488
Residential/Dormitory Rate	\$52,576	\$42,082	\$42,082
Total Cost	\$114,482	\$102,570	\$102,570

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Special Education 401 - General Funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: approved in 1998/99, but last approved in August 2020



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone and Kelly Wojcik

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Promoting Engagement and Knowledge Projects (PEaK).

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The NDE Office of Special Education is committed to supporting districts in improving results for children with disabilities. To meet this purpose, funding is available annually to support implementation and evaluation of Targeted Improvement Plans (TIPs) through a PEaK (Promoting Engagement and Knowledge) project. The PEaK Project funding is supplemental to, and is not intended to supplant or duplicate, any other funding source(s). Districts or consortiums of districts supported by an ESU may apply for projects funded with IDEA discretionary dollars for the specific purpose of improving learning for children with disabilities.

As part of Nebraska's Results Driven Accountability (RDA) System, all school districts must participate in ongoing review of their special education program utilizing the Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities (ILCD) process. The process includes an analysis of district data to study Impact Area data, district infrastructure, and other pertinent district data to identify target areas for improvement. This is followed by identifying measurable results (goals) and coherent improvement strategies that will be the focus for improvement. Next, the district reviews the current infrastructure and capacity to implement, scale-up and sustain evidence-based practice. Finally, based upon strengths and challenges, a comprehensive, multi-year TIP detailing coherent improvement strategies focused on improving results for children with disabilities is created. The state plan directs districts to implement phases of the ILCD improvement process over several years. The PEaK projects for 2022-2023 support Phase IV of the TIP: Implementation and Evaluation and MTSS Implementation.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewals
- If renewal, date of first approval: August 2018

ESTIMATED COSTS:

Recipient: ESU 1
Project Amount: \$87,399

Recipient: ESU 2
Project Amount: \$94,542

Recipient: ESU 3
Project Amount: \$131,036

Recipient: ESU 4
Project Amount: \$53,693

Recipient: ESU 5
Project Amount: \$59,312

Recipient: ESU 6
Project Amount: \$88,956

Recipient: ESU 7
Project Amount: \$94,507

Recipient: ESU 8
Project Amount: \$78,752

Recipient: ESU 10
Project Amount: \$80,698

Recipient: ESU 11
Project Amount: \$58,654

Recipient: ESU 13
Project Amount: \$144,945

Recipient: LPS
Project Amount: \$313,028

Recipient: Bellevue
Project Amount: \$73,508

Recipient: Papillion La Vista
Project Amount: \$90,135

Recipient: Elkhorn
Project Amount: \$70,103

Recipient: OPS
Project Amount: \$396,270

Recipient: Millard
Project Amount: \$180,135

Recipient: Grand Island
Project Amount: \$74,228

Total Projects Amount: \$2,169,901



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Para educator Self-Study Program

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Project Para provides a locally controlled, web-based para educator training package to Nebraska school districts that meet the requirements of NDE Rule 11, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and Individuals with Disabilities Improvement Act (IDEA). Since 2004, UNL's para educator study program has assisted school districts in providing easily accessible training adapted for the particular needs of a school and/or paraeducator and augments introductory training provided by districts. The project director at UNL has retired and UNL would like to be a part of this project on a consulting basis only, leaving NDE Office of Special Education with the opportunity to continue this project through the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council.

The project will continue to fund the maintenance of the management systems and on-line training materials that were previously housed on a web platform through UNL with the transition completion, over the next few months, to a web platform housed with ESUCC. It will also provide funding to monitor the on-line training system and collection of project evaluation information. Security and reliability of the training systems will still be monitored and updated as necessary, including updating of hardware, software, and procedures.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$65,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: This project is split funded between three different offices. The Office of Special Education - Federal IDEA – Part B, The Office of Federal Programs - Federal ESSA, and The Office of Early Childhood.
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2018



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone and Theresa Hayes

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund Secondary Regional Transition Projects

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The NDE Office of Special Education is committed to supporting schools in improving results for children with disabilities. To meet this purpose funding is available for the 2022-2023 school year to support Secondary Transition Regional Projects and to fund a part-time Regional Transition Facilitator.

The purpose of the Regional Projects is to increase local capacity and facilitate implementation of evidence-based and promising practices identified by the National Technical Assistance Center on Transition – Collaborative (NTACT - C) to improve transition-focused education and improve post school outcomes for youth with disabilities. Professional development and technical assistance will focus on developing educators and other transition service providers to make data-informed decisions and use and implement practices that will have a high likelihood of improving post school outcomes for students with disabilities: increasing the graduation rate, decreasing the dropout rate, increasing competitive employment and increase the rate of enrollment in post-secondary education or training.

The purpose of the Part-time Regional Transition Facilitator will be to assist in the coordination of technical assistance and professional development focused on transition within the region. This individual will work closely with the NDE Coordinator of Transition Supports to develop a consistent system of capacity building and professional development within regions and statewide. The purpose of this system is to increase and build strong supports for transition educators and create positive outcomes for transition-aged students.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST:

Recipient: ESU 3 - ESUCC
Project Amount: \$68,700

Recipient: ESU 6
Project Amount: \$68,700

Recipient: ESU 7
Project Amount: \$68,700

Recipient: ESU 13
Project Amount: \$68,700

Total Projects Amount: \$274,800

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA-Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: July 2019



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 23, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Ryan Foor, Administrative Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to enter into an agreement with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to formalize collaboration between the DHHS and the NDE, and to authorize the NDE to oversee and administer the schools and education programs provided by the DHHS facility-based schools.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The current agreement with DHHS is set to end on June 30, 2021. Authorization to enter into an amended or new agreement is sought from the board.

Considerations for continuation of agreement:

- Continuity of superintendent role to ensure compliance with NDE rules and regulations and continuity of operations within the educational aspects of the facilities.
 - Direct connection with NDE senior leadership helps to keep the needs of the DHHS schools and priorities a priority within the NDE.
 - Scott English is performing at a high-level under the agreement; is well received by the teaching staff, and seems to have developed strong working relationships with his DHHS counterparts.
- Continuity of educational professional development for teachers and school administrators to ensure high-quality education for the youth.
 - Teachers were not previously receiving regular educational professional development. We are utilizing our contractor who works with our schools most in need of improvement.
- Implementation of recommendations from Dr. Tannis, which could take one to two years or more to achieve with fidelity.
- Continuation of work to ensure accreditation under Rule 10.
 - The last year has provided the NDE with an opportunity for a diagnostic analysis of the needs and issues within the DHHS education settings, in order to begin to draft special purpose agreements to be approved by the State Board of Education.
- Entire budget under current agreement likely will not be expended in full.

Rationale from the initial authorization:

The purpose of the agreement is to formalize collaboration between the DHHS and the NDE and to authorize the NDE to oversee and administer the schools and education programs provided by the DHHS facility-based schools from the time of execution of the agreement through August 31, 2020. This collaboration applies to the schools and education programs operated by the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers (YRTC), the Hastings Regional Center JCDP, the Lincoln Regional Center – Whitehall Campus, and any additional facility-based schools DHSS may operate during the term of this agreement.

The agreement would include terms for the NDE to provide school administration for the term of the agreement, as well as written recommendations for the DHHS to implement an education system for the DHHS facilities.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 13-807 provides in relevant part that “any one or more public agencies may contract with any one or more other public agencies to perform any governmental service, activity or undertaking which at least one of the public agencies entering into the contract is authorized by law to perform.” DHHS – Office of Juvenile Services has the legal authority for the oversight and control of the youth rehabilitation and treatment centers (see Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-404).

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June/2022

ESTIMATED COST: The estimated amount of the agreement is a maximum of \$250,000 in state funds from the DHHS to the NDE.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: DHHS agreement/state funds
- New or Renewal: renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: March 2020



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 23, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Ryan Foor, Administrative Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with individuals or entities yet to be named to fulfill the terms of the agreement for the DHHS facility-based schools and education programs.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Contract authorization is requested to fulfill the terms of the agreement with the DHHS to oversee and administer the DHHS schools and education programs. Specific agreements will be pursuant to the agreement with DHHS.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June/2022

ESTIMATED COST: Contracts not to exceed \$250,000 in total.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: DHHS agreement/state funds
- New or Renewal: New and renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: No earlier than March 2020



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: June 3, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Leslie S. Donley
Assistant Attorney General

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Appoint a Hearing Officer in NDE Case No. 22-15, *Mandi Fernau v. Commissioner*

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Title 92, *Nebraska Administrative Code*, Chapter 20 “Regulations for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs,” § 004.06B states: “The institution shall inform all persons who apply for admission to its program that persons who have felony convictions, or misdemeanor convictions involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct, as defined in Section 004.06D of this chapter, are automatically rejected by the Department for certification, and may only be considered for certification, or participation in field experiences, with the approval of the Department. A person with a conviction as defined in Section 004.06D . . . may request approval by the Department using the procedures set forth in 92 NAC 21, Sections 009.02 and 009.04.”

The Petitioner’s request for approval to participate in pre-student teaching field, laboratory, and classroom experiences, or student teach was denied by the Commissioner on May 2, 2022. In accordance with 92 NAC 21, § 009.03, Petitioner has timely appealed the Commissioner’s decision. Thus, appointment of a hearing office is necessary to conduct a hearing on this matter under the provisions of 92 NAC 61 (pertaining to contested case hearings).

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): JUNE/2022

ESTIMATED COST: Current Contract with Hearing Officer services are \$125/hr.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

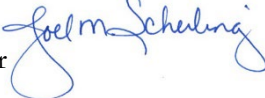
- Indicate the Funding Source:
- New or Renewal:
- If renewal, date of first approval:



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: June 1, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Joel M. Scherling 
HR Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Action Item: Approve the employment agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt and his performance standards and goals for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

President Koch Johns

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Update salary and other terms of the contract

PROPOSED MEETING DATE: Friday, June 3, 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$246,764.24

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source:
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: December 12, 2013

AMENDMENT TO EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This amendment ("Amendment") is hereby entered into by and between the **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**, a Nebraska public body corporate ("State Board") and **MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, Ph.D.**, an individual ("Dr. Blomstedt") (collectively, the "Parties"), for the purpose of amending and modifying certain provisions of their current contract.

RECITALS

A. The State Board and Dr. Blomstedt previously entered into an employment agreement ("Agreement") that commenced on July 1, 2021, and continues through June 30, 2024.

B. The Parties wish to amend the Agreement in the manner reflected herein.

C. The State Board has duly considered and approved this Amendment by formal action taken during a public meeting conducted on June 3, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual premises and covenants hereof, and for other good and valuable consideration the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereby agree as follows:

Section 1. Section 3(a) and (b) of the Agreement are hereby deleted and replaced in their entirety with the following sections:

Section 3. Compensation. For the performance of all duties and responsibilities in his capacity of Commissioner, Dr. Blomstedt shall be compensated as follows during the Term hereof:

(a) Salary. Effective July 1, 2022, Dr. Blomstedt shall be paid a full-time annual salary in the gross amount of \$246,764.24 (Two Hundred Forty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars and Twenty-Four Cents), which shall be paid pro rata at normal payroll intervals and shall be subject to normal payroll deductions. The State Board retains the option to further adjust Dr. Blomstedt's salary during the Term hereof.

(b) Benefits. Dr. Blomstedt shall receive vacation leave and sick leave as set forth in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-1320 through 81-1328 as they currently exist or as they may be amended in the future. Dr. Blomstedt shall otherwise be eligible to receive all benefits made available to permanent full-time employees of the Department. For the period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, Dr. Blomstedt shall receive an additional forty (40) hours of vacation leave. Any unused balance of this additional leave shall be forfeited as of 11:59 p.m. on June 30, 2023.

Section 2. Section 5 is hereby deleted and replaced in its entirety with the following section:

Section 5. Annual Evaluation of Performance. On or before June 15 of each year of the Term hereof, the State Board shall communicate to Dr. Blomstedt the State Board's evaluation of his performance during the Evaluation Period. The State Board shall conduct the evaluations utilizing an appraisal instrument, a copy of which shall be provided to Dr. Blomstedt on the Effective Date. For the Evaluation Period beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023, the evaluation shall be based on the performance standards and goals approved by the State Board. In the event the State Board further modifies the appraisal instrument during the Term, Dr. Blomstedt shall receive a copy of the revised instrument as soon as reasonably practicable. The results of the evaluations and any documents prepared and used in the evaluation process shall be kept confidential unless the parties mutually agree to their disclosure.

Section 3. All terms and provisions of the Agreement not expressly amended in this Amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have duly executed this Amendment on the date set forth below.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MATTHEW BLOMSTEDT, Ph.D.

By: _____
Patsy Koch Johns, President

By: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____



Commissioner’s Performance Standards, Indicators & Targets

Proposed Revision ♦ 6/1/22

*Progress reports will be presented to the board before October 1, 2022; January 1, 2023; April 1, 2023 and June 1, 2023.

*The word “stakeholders” throughout this document will include a variety of audiences. However, in all cases it is implied that there will be an intentional and proactive effort made to ensure that racial diversity and people with diversity of background are included.

1. Shared Vision and Strategic Direction

The Commissioner leads the development and implementation of a shared vision, strategic direction, and goals that reflect the department’s core values, beliefs, and priorities. The Commissioner leads through a collaborative process engaging all stakeholders and mobilizing state resources in support of the vision and strategic direction of education throughout Nebraska.

Indicators

- 1.1 Develops and implements a shared vision and strategic direction that guides the state into supporting high expectations for student achievement.
 - **Evidence:** *Documentation of a shared vision and strategic direction, which supports high expectations of student achievement and accomplishment, developed with specific strategies, measurable outcomes, and timelines.*
- 1.2 Partners with the board of education and stakeholders in the development of the shared vision and strategic direction. This will represent the current and future needs of the state and school communities.
 - **Evidence:** *Documentation of collaborative development of the shared vision and strategic direction involving board members and key stakeholders.*
 - **Evidence:** *Community engagement meetings and surveys solicit input and feedback on the vision and strategic direction from stakeholders.*
- 1.3 Engages stakeholders within the state and school communities to develop a commitment to the shared vision and the strategic direction.
 - **Evidence:** *Board, staff, state, and community presentations and updates routinely model commitment to the shared vision and strategic direction.*
 - **Evidence:** *Newsletters, articles, public speaking engagements, and information on the department website routinely provide stakeholders with information and updates related to the shared vision and strategic direction.*
 - **Evidence:** *The NDE website must proactively and continually improve easy access and searching tools to make the website more user friendly.*
 - **Evidence:** *The NDE will proactively share information links that can be used on partner websites (e.g., local school districts, universities, teacher groups).*
- 1.4 Routinely solicits feedback—including periodic review and revision of the shared vision and strategic direction—with input from key stakeholders throughout the state.
 - **Evidence:** *Feedback processes such as surveys, formal and informal meetings, where committees solicit input from key stakeholders throughout the state.*

- 1.5 Communicates regularly and openly with stakeholders across the state about the State Board of Education, the Nebraska Department of Education, educational needs, student performance, challenges, and accomplishments.
- **Evidence:** *Newsletters, newspaper articles, web articles, speaking engagements, social media and communication plan/goals exist with timelines and benchmarks.*
 - **Evidence:** Proactively determines public relations strategies for all key NDE initiatives.
 - **Evidence:** Initiates talking points for board members and stakeholders as requested/needed on all key NDE plans.
 - **Evidence:** Regular celebration of State Board of Education work, and “good things” happening in education in Nebraska, on social media platforms.
 - **Evidence:** NDE Public Information and Communications Office distributes a monthly board summary report to every news media outlet in Nebraska.
- 1.6 Maintains a presence throughout the state to understand its strengths and needs.
- **Evidence:** *Encourage board members to participate in state, regional, and community events.*
 - **Evidence:** *Serves on boards or committees to provide leadership and direction on educational issues and needs in Nebraska. Facilitate meetings or informational sessions, and/or conduct needs assessments or surveys.*
- 1.7 Models collaboration within the agency and encourages collaboration between the Nebraska Department of Education, other state agencies, educational partnerships, Educational Service Units and school districts.
- **Evidence:** *Reports, presentations, and updates demonstrate collaboration within organizations. Activities and professional development reinforce collaborative processes.*
 - **Evidence:** *Strategic planning and rule-making processes are developed with collaborative input through engagement of key statewide stakeholders.*
 - **Evidence:** *Strategically written satisfaction and consumer-focused surveys are routinely used to gather input from external and internal stakeholders. Results are shared and utilized. The release of information is strategic and intentional.*
- 1.8 Communicates regularly and openly with stakeholders across the state about the State Board of Education, the Nebraska Department of Education, educational needs, student performance, challenges, and accomplishments.
- **Evidence:** *Newsletters, newspaper articles, web articles, speaking engagements and communication plan/goals exist with timelines and benchmarks.*
- 1.9 Maintains a presence throughout the state to understand the educational strengths and needs.
- **Evidence:** *Participation in state, regional, and community events, facilitating meetings or informational sessions, or conducting needs assessments or surveys.*
 - **Evidence:** *Serves on boards or committees to provide leadership.*
- 1.10 Understands and is engaged with state educational needs, priorities, and resources.
- **Evidence:** Student and school data, state surveys, data on state, regional and community needs, and stakeholder engagement goals exist with timelines and *benchmarks*.
- 1.11 Supports needs of the State Board of Education so they can excel in their work.
- **Evidence:** Provides timely responses, with details, to board members questions and requests.
 - **Evidence:** Provides timely responses to stakeholder questions, with timely follow-up back to board members who made the request.

2. State Board of Education and Education System Policy

The Commissioner provides direction for the board in policy development and governance within the political, social, economic, or legal context at a state and national level.

Indicators

- 2.1 Actively fosters board relationships and keeps board members informed and engaged in development.
 - **Evidence:** *Board agendas and board communications keep board members informed; strategies, such as board committees or board professional development, keep board members engaged in the proactive process focused on state educational needs and policy priorities.*
- 2.2 Proactively responds to board needs and policy priorities.
 - **Evidence:** *Board agendas, reports, and communication are used to inform board and key stakeholders on educational needs and policy priorities.*
 - **Evidence:** *Uses strategies and tools to routinely gather input from board members to determine needs and direction for policy priorities.*
- 2.3 Provides leadership in the compliance, review, and development of state policy.
 - **Evidence:** *Board policies are current, aligned with state statutes and the board's strategic direction and vision policy, and the department is in compliance with state and federal regulations.*
- 2.4 Stays current on, responds to, and advocates for state or federal policy, as needed to support the board's shared vision and strategic direction.
 - **Evidence:** *Reports to board members and staff demonstrate up-to-date information on state or federal policy, as needed.*
 - **Evidence:** *Monitors state and federal legislation; confers with legislators and congressional representatives.*
- 2.5 Collaboratively works to influence state and national decisions impacting student achievement and school success.
 - **Evidence:** *Board reports, board communication, and professional development show evidence of engagement of key stakeholders and participation in activities that support state and national policy decisions that have positive impact on student achievement and school success. Strong emphasis placed on decisions impacting populations that are statistically underperforming.*

3. State School System Leadership

The Commissioner ensures organizational and school success through continuous improvement and leadership focused on evidence-based practices in teaching and learning.

Indicators

- 3.1 Ensures the implementation of a coherent system of standards and assessment that aligns with the shared vision, is culturally responsive, and embodies high expectations.
 - **Evidence:** *State standards and assessments are developed with broad stakeholder input to ensure high expectations and cultural responsiveness. Processes, standards, and state assessments are reviewed and approved by the board.*
- 3.2 Communicates high expectations for student achievement that is accomplished by a data-driven approach that produces effective results.
 - **Evidence:** *The strategic plan clearly articulates data-driven high expectations that are incorporated into the regulations for accountability, accreditation and approval of schools.*

- 3.3 Ensures standards and assessments are research-based, innovative, and provide learning experiences and opportunities that lead all students to success at the next level.
 - **Evidence:** *Board reports, presentations, and student achievement data reflect that processes are in place to ensure standards and assessment are developed using research-based and innovative practices. These are monitored and adjusted to provide equitable and challenging learning experiences and opportunities that lead all students to success at the next level.*
- 3.4 Ensures regulatory processes and policies relative to teacher preparation are up to date in terms of needs from the field. Certification policies are also available for review with input by key stakeholders.
 - **Evidence:** *Teacher preparation and certification rules and processes are available for review; and a process for input is identified in board policy, procedures, or practices.*
 - **Evidence:** *Forward and efficient progress toward updated/improved pathways to certification.*
- 3.5 Monitors and supports the implementation of research-based practices in teaching and learning.
 - **Evidence:** *Board reports and presentations, as well as state regulations, procedures, and practices that reflect the use of research or evidence-based practices.*

4. Department Leadership

The Commissioner: promotes department success by leading the organizational structure and resources in a way that ensures a safe, efficient, and effective working environment; effectively uses strategies, processes, and systems to hire, develop and retain high-performing personnel who demonstrate a shared commitment to organizational success; fosters and monitors department climate and culture to ensure equity; promotes organizational success through a clearly defined process of accountability and a culture of continuous improvement; and participates in professional learning opportunities.

Indicators

- 4.1 Ensures business processes and systems are in place for budgeting and financial planning.
 - **Evidence:** *Board reports on budget and financial status demonstrate department policies, procedures, and practices are aligned with effective use of business processes and systems in all aspects of the department's finances.*
- 4.2 Communicates expectations that align board and department vision with the use of physical and financial resources of the department.
 - **Evidence:** *Board reports and presentations on use of physical (e.g., buildings, furniture) and financial resources reflect an alignment with the board and department's shared vision and strategic direction.*
- 4.3 Uses a systems approach that optimizes the use of facilities and resources.
 - **Evidence:** *Short-term and long-term plans are available and routinely updated.*
 - **Evidence:** *Facilities are well-maintained, clean, and safe.*
- 4.4 Identifies and resolves issues, manages conflicts, and builds consensus about the use of personnel, physical, and financial resources throughout the department.
 - **Evidence:** *Department policies, procedures, and practices define processes for handling conflict, and regular communication keeps board members informed of operational issues and the resolution of such issues.*
- 4.5 Ensures the necessary personnel and financial resources are allocated to achieve the agency's shared vision and strategic direction.
 - **Evidence:** *Board reports, presentations and the department budget reinforce that personnel and financial systems are in place to achieve the board and department's vision and strategic direction.*

- **Evidence:** Budget and hiring processes and timelines are available and communicated to the board members and key stakeholders in a timely manner.
- 4.6 Implements human resource systems and processes that address: recruitment, hiring, and induction; evaluation and retention; and short-term and long-term planning reflective of personnel needs.
- **Evidence:** Communication processes inform board members and key stakeholders regarding recruitment and employment opportunities within the department.
 - **Evidence:** Department procedures are in place and available for review by board members regarding the evaluation process of all personnel.
 - **Evidence:** Strategies for recognition and positive reinforcement of all personnel are used to support retention.
 - **Evidence:** Board reports, presentations, and personnel data reflect department policies and procedures are in place and consistently used to support personnel needs in the department.
 - **Evidence:** Short-term and long-term plans are in place to support recruitment, development, and retention of all personnel.
- 4.7 Creates a comprehensive system of professional development for all personnel.
- **Evidence:** Department policies, procedures and practices define professional development expectations.
 - **Evidence:** Strategic plans delineate professional development expectations and areas of improvement for the agency.
 - **Evidence:** The Commissioner’s professional development plan aligns with the department needs and priorities and demonstrates a commitment to lifelong learning.
- 4.8 Creates a system in which shared vision on equity and equitable practices are the norm.
- **Evidence:** Department practices including communication plans and stakeholder/staff surveys of climate and culture reinforce a shared vision of equity and equitable practices.
 - **Evidence:** The Commissioner establishes protocols allowing department staff to communicate directly with the Commissioner regarding any possible or perceived climate/cultural conflicts within the department.
- 4.9 Processes, regulations and services reflect a commitment to equity and equitable practices.
- **Evidence:** Department policies, procedures, practices, and services clearly support a commitment to equity.
 - **Evidence:** Demonstrates new steps are regularly taken to improve equity outcomes.
- 4.10 Visibly and actively develops and communicates a positive and responsive culture of high expectations and well-being for self, staff, and services.
- **Evidence:** The Commissioner uses oral and written communication strategies, and problem-solving strategies with the board, staff, stakeholders, and customers that convey a positive and responsive culture of high expectations and equitable practices.
 - **Evidence:** An analysis of staff turnover statistics for the previous five years.
- 4.11 Demonstrates a commitment to accountability by modeling and ensuring everyone is held accountable for success.
- **Evidence:** Board policies and procedures define a system of accountability and reports and presentations keep the board and community informed about department accountability.
 - **Evidence:** Commissioner’s annual report to the board regarding strategic plan measures of progress and quarterly school accountability reporting provides the foundation for continuous improvement.

- 4.12 Systematically reviews, anticipates, and analyzes emerging trends and innovative strategies to continually improve all elements of the agency.
- **Evidence:** *Board reports and presentations keep the board informed of emerging trends and innovative strategies to continually improve all aspects of the agency*
- 4.13 Maintains and communicates comprehensive and current information about organizational processes, procedures, and effectiveness.
- **Evidence:** *Robust, comprehensive strategic plans for the agency and each program are based on comprehensive and current information on program outcomes, with specific goals and benchmarks aligned with state and national indicators of quality and best practice.*
 - **Evidence:** *Succession plans are in place for all organizational leaders and presented to the board president and vice president.*
- 4.14 Makes informed recommendations to the board and decisions based on multiple data sources.
- **Evidence:** *Multiple data sources are used and clearly explained in board reports and board recommendations.*
- 4.15 Engages key stakeholders on continuous improvement and accountability of the agency on a regular basis.
- **Evidence:** *Administrative and board reports regularly provide information regarding activities to engage key stakeholders on continuous improvement of the agency.*
- 4.16 Aligns state processes and regulations with national indicators of quality, accreditation, and accountability.
- **Evidence:** *Board reports provide information on state policies, regulations, procedures, and practice aligned with national expectations of quality, accreditation, and accountability.*
- 4.17 Leads with dignity and respect.
- **Evidence:** *The Commissioner uses oral and written communication strategies and problem-solving strategies with the board, staff, parents, stakeholders, and communities that convey dignity and respect.*
- 4.18 Ensures implementation of policy and practice is consistent.
- **Evidence:** *Department policies and procedures guide the decision-making process to be just, fair, and equitable; and the Commissioner uses oral and written communication strategies and problem-solving strategies with the stakeholders that demonstrate decisions are just, fair, and equitable.*
- 4.19 Models and articulates ethical behavior and consistently holds others in the department accountable for demonstrating integrity and ethical behavior.
- **Evidence:** *Department policies and procedures are grounded in an ethical framework, and the Commissioner models and leads with integrity and ethical behavior.*
 - **Evidence:** *Department policies and procedures are grounded in an ethical framework, and the Commissioner holds all staff accountable for behavior that may be deemed as lacking integrity or ethics.*
- 4.20 Participates in professional growth and leadership opportunities to model continuous improvement needs of self and the agency.
- **Evidence:** *The Commissioner's professional development plan delineates needs and activities that model continuous improvement for the agency and opportunities to foster ongoing leadership.*

5. Goals established by the Commissioner working in collaboration with the State Board of Education.

Goals for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

1. Update the agency's strategic plan.
 - a. Establish three-to-five-year strategic priorities for the agency/board.
 - i. Identify, with the Executive Committee, a set of priorities for the three-to-five-year plan and have the State Board review/consider in fall of 2022.
 - b. Review and adjust the strategic vision and direction document to address current data and appropriate metrics.
 - i. Work with the Data Research and Evaluation Office to determine which data are available to continue or reset for strategic planning metrics with preliminary data in the fall of 2022 and ongoing as data are available in 2022-23.
 - ii. Review and revise state ESSA Plan and submit in window of time established by USDOE (still to be determined).
 - c. Set clear strategic goals aligned with the attainment goals established among postsecondary partners and by [Legislative Resolution 335](#).
 - i. State Board of Education adopts key provisions and goals aligned with LR 335 by August 2022.
 - ii. Set a goal at pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle school, and high school by October 2022.
 - iii. Propose a plan for "Nebraska Ready" (based on Profile of a Graduate) by December 2022.
2. Identify and implement process improvement for key board processes and decisions to improve internal communication and engagement with board members.
 - a. Develop an annual calendar.
 - i. Work with Executive Committee to advance to the full board by the fall of 2022.
 - b. Identify key processes and decisions for the next 3-5 years.
 - i. Work with Executive Committee to advance to the full board in the fall of 2022.
 - c. Review and revise, as necessary, the board playbook (previous version was developed in consultation with Reg Leichy and has been used in the recent trainings with Prism Advisors).
 - i. Work with the Executive Committee to ensure that the playbook is relevant and used by the board.
 - ii. Review the board orientation process by January 2023.
 - d. Conduct a board policy review with the Executive Committee, ad hoc committee (if appointed), and full board as appropriate.
 - i. Work with Executive Committee to advance policy changes in the fall of 2022.
3. Develop and implement an External Communication Plan.
 - a. Conduct and participate regular stakeholder engagement.
 - i. Continue with current groups (superintendents, policy partners, Teacher Advisory, Supreme Court Commission, Native American Advisory Committee, and other existing advisory bodies).
 - ii. Expand parental engagement strategies to implement in 2023-24 school year.
 - iii. Expand student engagement strategies to implement in 2023-24 school year.

- b. Develop a communication plan to share ongoing messages from the NDE and statewide education system.
 - i. An external communications plan will be developed with NDE and education policy partners. Preliminary conversations will occur in the summer of 2022.
 - ii. A Positive Message Campaign will roll out in the fall/winter of 2022-23.

- 4. Implement agency process improvement priorities.
 - a. Continue to monitor and improve responsiveness of Educator Certification as a priority
 - i. Implement changes in Educator Certification, including but not limited to, staffing supports and certification changes (per LB 1218 and through proposed Rule Changes).
 - b. Monitor the office construction and the completion of the phase I (agency central office) by the fall of 2022.
 - i. Review and establish agency internal policy directives for return to office protocols and remote/hybrid expectations for workplace by fall of 2022.
 - c. Oversee phase II of office move for VR and DDS to the new location on 500 South 84th from existing satellite offices by summer/fall of 2023.

- 5. Develop a systems-involved youth education improvement agenda/plan. (Note: This is included as an additional aspirational goal and priority area at the request of the Commissioner.)
 - a. Engage with HHS Committee on LR 438 Study and bridge engagement from Education Committee leadership to address key education challenges for systems-involved youth. Expected timeline based on LR 438 is December 31, 2022, with possible follow-up in 2023.
 - b. Engage in a legislative agenda in partnership with DHHS, Probation, Courts, Foster Care system and education leaders, among others, during the fall of 2022.
 - c. Work with partners in the system to improve understanding of challenges in the system including a communications strategy with key legislators and partners in the summer and fall of 2022.
 - d. Support the specific study of educational responsibilities, special education, financial system review, and propose ideas that would improve the rationality of the system during the LR 435 study, through the fall of 2022, and into the 2023 legislative session.



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: June 2, 2022

“The Committee on Budget and Finance reports that...

No discussion over previous Committee Notes.

Action Items:

2.2.A. Action Item: Accept the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report Audit

Speaker(s): Bryce Wilson

Discussion:

NDE staff covered the ACFR audit and the two related findings. NDE noted that both findings were discovered by NDE staff and corrected. Processes to address both issues were put into place to avoid further issues in future years.

A Committee member asked if the SPED FFR system was developed in house or purchased externally since the system was down and caused the first auditor finding. Per NDE staff the system was developed internally and was in the first year of existence when the issue occurred.

The Committee supported moving this item forward to the full board.

2.2.B. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Educational Service Unit #10 (ESU 10) to provide support to the ATP Education Program.

Speaker(s): Tobias Orr and Lindy Foley

Discussion: The Committee asked for clarification on what is ATP and what work or program they assist with? Per NDE staff ATP is Assisted Technology Partnership which works with VR clients and schools to provide technology or assistive devices to individuals in need of specialized technology to work or attend school.

A Committee member asked if this a new contract? Yes, but ATP has been working with ESU #10 for a long time however, the contract is being reduced since the Cozad office storage area was eliminated with that support being moved to Lincoln.

The question was asked if these services are provided Statewide or just in ESU#10. Per NDE staff services are provided statewide with this specific contract being used to build the knowledge base of what's available and be a support to schools. Additionally, this contract allows for the loan of equipment at no charge so schools can see what works for schools and students before a school purchases equipment.

The Committee recommends approving this item.

2.2.C. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Mary Phillips for services to prepare for, participate in, and/or facilitate IEP meetings under the direction of NDE

Speaker(s): Amy Rhone

Discussion: Per NDE Mary's work would be to facilitate discussions with parents and schools when there is a dispute between a school and parent over an IEP. This is designed to be a step before a dispute resolution is required by Federal law so that an individual can meet with parents and schools to find resolution before mediation is required. This person would also make sure parents and schools know their rights when disagreements occur.

A Committee member asked how often are parents unhappy with IEP plans? Per NDE staff there has been an increase the last couple of years which may be in part due to parents' awareness of their rights due to programs implemented to raise that awareness and a result of the Pandemic's related frustrations for students with IEP's. The State has seen a 300% increase in filings the last couple of years. A Committee member wanted to know what rights do parents have? Per NDE, parents may file a complaint with NDE and are entitled to a due process.

A committee member asked if an RFP was done? NDE responded that it was not since the contractor was considered a sole source provider. The Committee discussed if other options may have been available to hire as well.

The question was asked, "what training does Mary have with diverse family situations?" Per NDE the national training that is used embeds diversity training in their work.

Another Committee question was about how the compensation was determined? NDE staff noted it was based on a hourly rate plus mileage and other travel costs. A Committee member asked if this amount is enough? Per NDE we may need more individuals later depending on how work goes with this member.

The Committee recommends moving this item on to the full board.

2.2.D. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with SPED Strategies to offer a yearlong professional learning series to support teaching and learning for students with disabilities.

Speaker(s): Shirley Vargas and Amy Rhone

Discussion: Per NDE staff NDE currently has a contract with SPED strategies to ensure students with IEP's are receiving appropriate age level education which runs through the school year. This contract is to extend current work through the summer. The contract is for deliverables for a specific scope of work which is for up to three in person trainings as well as hosting virtual one-hour sessions to discuss actual practices with educators.

A Committee member asked, "how do you know if this contract is a success?" Per NDE staff survey's and follow up after the fact to assess success of operation are being conducted. NDE staff further explained that all schools are eligible to participate but this program specifically targets CSI and ATSI schools. CSI and ATSI school outcomes will be monitored to assess the success of this program.

The Committee asked if evaluations processes are normally built into contracts? Per NDE staff most contracts include evaluations to determine the success of the contract.

The Committee supported moving this item on to the full board.

2.2.E. Action Item: Authorize the Commissioner to purchase new and replacement computer equipment, software licenses and maintenance agreements, and other technology supports for the NDE

Speaker(s): Tibor Moldovan

Discussion:

Per NDE this is our annual request to renew software licenses and computers and other technology pieces. All software contracts are all through the State's approved contract system and are for existing system and renewals of current software applications.

A Committee member asked if this was one specific contract or multiple contracts. Per NDE staff this will be multiple contracts for different services.

The funding for these purchases is a mix of General funds, indirect cost funds and Federal funds based on the funding source of the staff. No ESSER funds are used for these purchases.

The Committee supported bringing this item to the full board.

Discussion Items:

2.3.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

Discussion: NDE staff did a quick review noting expenses are far below the budgeted amount for the year.

The Committee also discussed the meal allocations for the expense report. No concerns were noted.

2.3.B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports

Discussion: No discussion

Committee Update:

2.4.A. School Mental Health Plan-Maureen Nickels

Discussion: A Committee member asked, “is this different than what the State is doing?” Per NDE the State is doing similar work. ESU #5 is working with other ESU’s to implement programs similar to their program. A question was raised about the kind of data NDE would be receiving related to this work. Per NDE staff UNL is collecting data to evaluate outcomes for both teachers and students. This grant requires short, mid and long term goals be established and monitored.

Another question was asked about why this item is on the Budget and Finance Committee agenda. Per Committee discussion the thought was that if identified for additional needs this likely could become a budget item at a future time.

A Committee member wanted to know what students are being targeted with this program? Per NDE the training that is being provided to ESU’s through NDE and next year to schools teaches these individuals to look for specific symptoms of mental health related issues.

The question was raised about the ability of school districts to use their own ESSER funds for mental health supports. It was noted that schools could and many did use ESSER funds for mental health supports including hiring practitioners in that area.

2.4.B. Jen McNally & ESU #5 Presentation for August-Maureen Nickels

Discussion:

Jen will be here in August for a presentation to the Committee.

Other Items:

Other Committee work or activities:

The Committee did not see any other specific areas of work that it plans to add to the Budget and Finance Committee. However, the Committee is desiring to gain further understanding of school finance and will be receiving training on different topics through the year. The Committee is also going to work to gain further understanding of historical budget trends and gain perspective to see if the NDE budget is responding to needs identified in the past and upcoming needs accordingly?

This concludes the Budget and Finance report.”

Maureen Nickels, Chair



2021-2022 Board Travel

At-A-Glance

Budgeted

\$60,000

Monthly Spending

\$1,275
Average

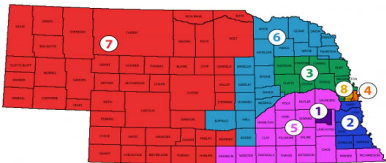
Annual Spending

\$15,325
Projected

Expenditures

Lodging
Meals
Mileage

Even under pandemic conditions, the Nebraska Board of Education has retained the ability to attend meetings, conferences and conventions, sustain meaningful and dynamic work in addition to engaging in new opportunities provided through innovation and virtual technology during unexpected circumstances.



Board Member Activity

District Board Member

1	Patsy Koch Johns, President
2	Lisa Fricke
3	Patti Gubbels <i>Appointed Jan. 2021</i>
3	Rachel Wise <i>Outgoing Dec. 2020</i>
4	Jacquelyn Morrison <i>Appointed Jan. 2021</i>
4	John Witzel <i>Outgoing Dec. 2020</i>
5	Kirk Penner <i>Appointed Dec. 2021</i>
5	Patricia Timm <i>Outgoing Nov. 2021</i>
6	Maureen Nickels
7	Robin Stevens, Vice President
8	Deborah Neary

Current Year
July 2021-June 2022

May	Year-To-Date
\$76	\$487
\$76	\$2,221
\$76	\$3,542
\$0	\$0
\$76	\$1,690
\$0	\$0
\$76	\$150
\$0	\$239
\$76	\$2,136
\$369	\$3,334
\$76	\$1,681

Prior Year
July 2020-June 2021

May	Year-To-Date
\$45	\$141
\$321	\$799
\$360	\$1,589
\$0	\$962
\$45	\$182
\$0	\$30
\$0	\$0
\$257	\$965
\$159	\$1,548
\$424	\$2,045
\$45	\$315

Variance

May	Year-To-Date
\$31	\$346
-\$245	\$1,422
-\$284	\$1,953
\$0	-\$962
\$31	\$1,508
\$0	-\$30
\$76	\$150
\$0	-\$726
-\$83	\$587
-\$55	\$1,289
\$31	\$1,366

Annual Budget

\$60,000

\$60,000

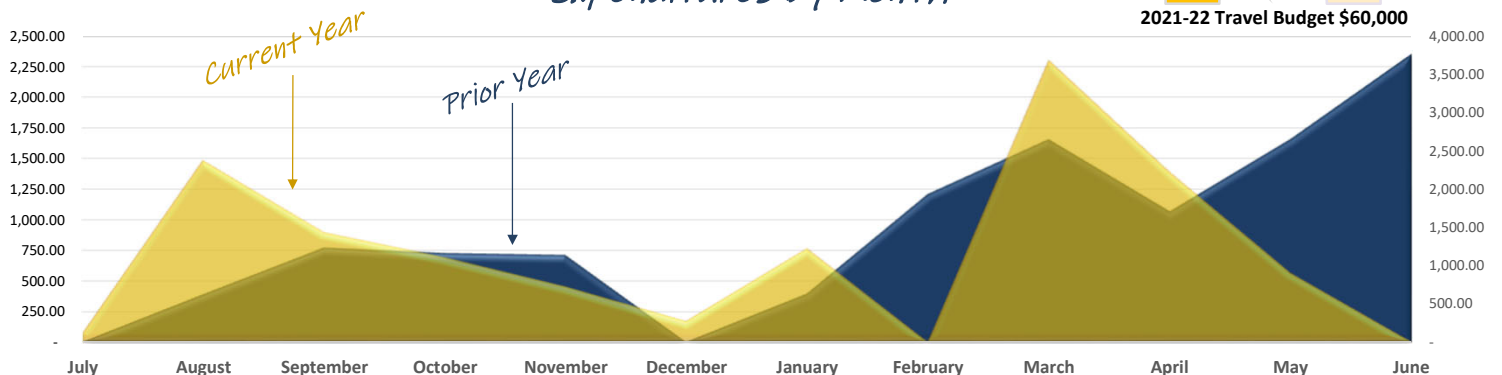
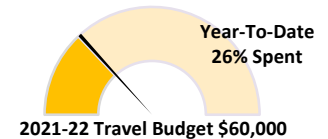
Over/(Under) Budget

(\$44,520) 74%

(\$51,424) 86%

2020-21 vs. 2021-22

Expenditures by Month



Historical Annual Expenditures - FY2021 (\$11,000), FY2020(\$35,000), FY2019(\$48,500)

In-State Travel Authorization Reports - June

Name	Event Name	Date	Location	Board Bylaw B16 Code A-F
Lisa Fricke	NSEA U Listening Session with Board Members	7/13/2022	Innovation Campus	E
	AQuESTT Advisory Group Meeting	06/08/22-06/09/22	SCC Lincoln	E
	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E
Jacquelyn Morrison	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E
Deborah Neary	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E
Kirk Penner	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E

In-State Travel Authorization Reports - June

Name	Event Name	Date	Location	Board Bylaw B16 Code A-F
Patsy Koch Johns	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E
Patti Gubbels	Educator Effectiveness Summitt	06/16/2022-06/17/2022	Embassy Suites, Lincoln, NE	E
	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E
Maureen Nickels	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E
Robin Stevens	Administrators' Days	07/27/2022-07/29/2022	Younes Conference Center North, Kearney, NE	E



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 13, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Bryce Wilson, Finance Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Accept the 2021 Annual Comprehensive Financial report (ACFR) Audit Report

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The ACFR audit is an annual audit performed by the State Auditor's office on the financial information for the State. The purpose of the ACFR audit is to make sure the State's financial statements are correct and that appropriate controls are in place to protect State resources. The attached ACFR Management Letter notes the findings related to the Department of Education.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$0

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS: N/A

- Indicate the Funding Source:
- New or Renewal:
- If renewal, date of first approval:



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Charlie Janssen
State Auditor

Charlie.Janssen@nebraska.gov
PO Box 98917
State Capitol, Suite 2303
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301
auditors.nebraska.gov

May 13, 2022

Matt Blomstedt, Commissioner
Nebraska Department of Education
PO Box 94987
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Dear Mr. Blomstedt:

Attached is a copy of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) Management Letter of the Nebraska Department of Education for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021. You can also access the management letter on our website at auditors.nebraska.gov.

If you have any questions concerning this management letter, please do not hesitate to write or call.

Sincerely,

Charlie Janssen
Auditor of Public Accounts

Enclosure

cc: Bryce Wilson, Finance Officer
Patsy Koch Johns, State Board of Education President



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Charlie Janssen
State Auditor

Charlie.Janssen@nebraska.gov
PO Box 98917
State Capitol, Suite 2303
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509
402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301
auditors.nebraska.gov

April 28, 2022

Matt Blomstedt, Commissioner
Nebraska Department of Education
PO Box 94987
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509

Dear Commissioner Blomstedt:

We were engaged to audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the State of Nebraska (State), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2021, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and we have issued our report thereon dated April 28, 2022. In connection with our engagement to audit the financial statements, we considered the State's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the State's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the State's internal control.

In connection with our engagement to audit the financial statements as described above, we noted certain internal control or compliance matters related to the activities of the Nebraska Department of Education (Department) or other operational matters that are presented below for your consideration. These comments and recommendations, which have been discussed with the appropriate members of Department's management, are intended to improve internal control or result in other operating efficiencies.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

In addition, we noted other matters involving internal control and its operation that we have reported to management of the Department, pursuant to American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Auditing Standards, AU-C Section 265B.A17, in a separate early communication letter dated August 3, 2021.

Draft copies of this letter were furnished to the Department to provide management with an opportunity to review and to respond to the comments and recommendations contained herein. Any formal responses received have been incorporated into this letter. Such responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the engagement to audit the financial statements; accordingly, we express no opinion on them. Responses that indicate corrective action has been taken were not verified at this time, but they will be verified in the next audit.

The following are our comments and recommendations for the year ended June 30, 2021.

1. Special Education Allocation

Each year, the schools and Educational Service Units (ESUs) send the Department a listing of their excess costs from the prior school year. Amounts reported are special education costs in excess of what the schools and ESUs received through Federal and State grants. Reimbursements to the schools and ESUs are limited by the amount of General Fund appropriations determined by the Legislature each year. Each school and ESU receives a percentage of the appropriations based upon the excess costs reported. The reimbursement rate is calculated by taking the appropriation amount, divided by the total excess costs from all the schools and ESUs, minus adjustments and Medicaid in Public Schools (MIPS), multiplied by each school and ESU's excess costs less the school and ESU's MIPS amount. The total reimbursement for each school and ESU is then paid evenly over seven months starting in December.

During our testing of two schools' calculations, the Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) identified an error in the manual calculation of the final payment in June 2021. The payments made to schools and ESUs for the School Age Special Education program were allocated incorrectly, leading to overpayments up to \$85,841 and underpayments up to \$52,392 to multiple schools and ESUs. Normally, the Department calculated the payments through the Special Education Financial Reporting System, but the June payment was manually calculated due to system errors in the calculation. The manual calculation included only one month of each school and ESU's MIPS amount instead of the entire amount applicable. The error was not identified and corrected by the Department until brought to its attention by the APA.

A good internal control plan and sound business practices require procedures to ensure that payments made to the schools and ESUs are calculated correctly according to the Department's procedures.

Without such procedures, there is increased risk for not only improper payments being made to schools and ESUs but also noncompliance with State statute.

We recommend the Department implement procedures to ensure the calculation performed is correct so that each school and ESU receives the proper reimbursement.

Department Response: NDE agrees with the finding. NDE found the issue while working with the auditors. Corrective calculations have been made and applied to correct the issue between districts since the net difference was zero to the State. The SPEDFRS "Final" payment in 21-22 will be reviewed for accuracy. If any modifications are required, NDE will work with the programmer to assure proper data files are available.

2. Improper Payables

The Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Division (State Accounting), prepares the State of Nebraska Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) and requires all State agencies to determine and report payable and receivable amounts at the end of the fiscal year on an accrual response form.

The Department did not calculate properly the payables reported to State Accounting for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2021, causing an overstatement of \$6,187,991. The APA proposed an adjustment for the overbooked liabilities, and State Accounting adjusted the financial statements accordingly.

A good internal control plan requires procedures to ensure that all financial information reported by the Department to State Accounting for the ACFR is accurate and complete.

Without such procedures, there is an increased risk of material misstatements occurring and remaining undetected.

We recommend the Department implement procedures to ensure the accuracy of the ACFR accruals.

Department Response: NDE agrees with the finding and submitted a revised report to the Department of Administrative Services, State Accounting Division. In future years the Central Accounting office will meet with the fiscal staff individual reporting the liability to ensure amounts reported are correct.

* * * * *

Our audit procedures are designed primarily on a test basis and, therefore, may not bring to light all weaknesses in policies or procedures that may exist. Our objective is, however, to use our knowledge of the Department and its interaction with other State agencies and administrative departments gained during our work to make comments and suggestions that we hope will be useful to the Department.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Governor and State Legislature, others within the Department, Federal awarding agencies, pass-through entities, and management of the State of Nebraska and is not suitable for any other purposes. However, this communication is a matter of public record, and its distribution is not limited.



Kris Kucera, CPA, CFE
Assistant Deputy Auditor



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 16, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Tobias J. Orr – Director, Assistive Technology Partnership (ATP)
Lindy Foley – Office Administrator, Nebraska VR

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Educational Service Unit #10 (ESU 10) to provide support to the ATP Education Program.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: For over 20 years ESU 10 has provided support to the ATP Education Program in various forms. Support has included program oversight, personnel to provide trainings, technical assistance, general administrative support, and management of the statewide education loan pool. This year the contract is being re-written as the management and housing of the statewide education loan pool is being brought in-house and moved to Lincoln. With the revised contract, ESU 10 will continue to provide support to the program and allow the ATP Education Program to have a continued presence in the central and western part of the state. This will enable the program to provide timely, in-person services including professional development and technical assistance regarding assistive technology devices and assistive technology services within the context of students' Individualized Family Support Plans (IFSPs) and Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). It will also assist the program with the dissemination of equipment to the central and western parts of the state when shipping the item commercially is not financially prudent. This provides schools and programs with opportunities to try different assistive technology devices with students to determine which may meet the needs of the student and ultimately saving schools/programs time and money.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June/2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$92,828.80

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Special Education IDEA Part B, and Part C funds.
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Mary Phillips for services to prepare for, participate in, and/or facilitate IEP meetings under the direction of NDE.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Individualized Education Program (IEP) Facilitation is an option available to parents and school staff when they both agree that it would be valuable to have a neutral person, the IEP Facilitator, present at an IEP meeting to assist them in discussing issues regarding the IEP. The facilitator promotes effective communication and assists in developing an IEP based on the student's needs.

Facilitation is a valuable resource to improve the understanding of the viewpoints of others. The goal of facilitation is to solve problems and keep the meeting focused on the needs of the student and the development of a plan for the future. Benefits include:

- It provides a neutral party with the goal of improving communication and outcomes of the IEP team.
- Promotes positive working relationships between parents and school personnel.
- Encourages mutual problem-solving.
- Keeps the meeting focused on the needs of the student.
- Ensures that all members of the team are heard and able to contribute.
- It provides for a less formal, positive, and proactive option prior to mediation.
- Prevents disputes that can become damaging to school/family relationships.
- Models effective communication and listening skills.
- Supports better follow through and follow up, as roles and responsibilities are discussed and planned.
- Clarifies points of agreement and disagreement.

The Nebraska Department of Education, Office of Special Education has seen a significant increase in the 92 NAC 51 (Special Education State Complaints) filed to remedy concerns and special education related frustrations amongst parents and school districts. An IEP Facilitator could be an option to IEP teams prior to entering into a tedious dispute resolution option. The NDE, OSE has developed a tiered system of

support within the dispute resolution options with IEP Facilitation being a universal option to all IEP teams. As a component of the dispute resolution options, teams may find themselves in dispute resolution corrective action that requires a IEP Facilitator. Mary Phillips will be trained and perform IEP facilitation for the NDE, Office of Special Education as a part of the highest level of support required within the tiered system of support. Her services would be directed by the Office of Special Education. IEP Facilitation is not required under IDEA and is not one of the dispute resolution options described in the federal law's procedural safeguard. However, facilitators are trained in effective communication and ways to address and resolve conflicts. They help IEP teams work together to develop effective IEPs for students. Members of IEP teams are the decisionmakers.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$56,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal, IDEA – Part B, 611
- New or Renewal: New



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 23, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Shirley Vargas, Ed.L.D.
School Transformation Officer

Amy Rhone
Administrator, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with SPED Strategies to offer a yearlong professional learning series to support teaching and learning for students with disabilities.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: SPED Strategies, in partnership with the NDE, will provide targeted professional learning opportunities to school leadership teams and educators focused on defining inclusive education and how it can support school improvement; identifying inclusive practices through reflection; utilizing high-quality IEPs for inclusive instructional planning; and utilizing IEPs for continuous student support in alignment with high quality instructional materials.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$70,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Title II-A and IDEA Part B
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 20, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Tibor Moldovan, Technology Services Administrator, Office of Technology Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to purchase new and replacement computer equipment, software licenses and maintenance agreements, and other technology supports for NDE.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each year the Office of Technology Services requests State Board of Education authorization to purchase computer hardware equipment to support new activities, replace existing equipment of staff, as per the replacement cycle identified in the NDE Technology Plan.

The NDE Technology Plan outlines a strategy for replacing NDE desktop equipment and network servers on a regular schedule. Software licenses (including Internet based software) require typical annual license renewals. This ensures the latest security approaches are applied which ensures safety and privacy of information and services.

Consistent with fiscal management practices, the authorization to expend resources is dependent on the availability of funds.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

June 2022

ESTIMATED COST:

Up to \$1,500,000.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal, General, Indirect, and Revolving Fund sources.
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Planning and Evaluation COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: June 02, 2022

“The Committee on Planning and Evaluation reports that...

Board Members Present:

Patti Gubbels
Robin Stevens
Deb Neary
Kirk Penner

NDE Staff Members Present

Cory Epler
Shirley Vargas
Deb Frison
Marissa Payzant
Matt Blomstedt
Jeremy Heneger
Lora Sypal
Brad Dirksen
Lane Carr

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

1.1 Committee members had no corrections or comments about the previous committee meeting notes.

The Nebraska Department of Education vision and State Board of Education working agreements were read.

The agenda was rearranged to accommodate guests from Isanti (Santee) Elementary, Middle, and High Schools and Schuyler Central High School who presented their annual Priority School Progress reports. As a COMMITTEE UPDATE 2.3.A Isanti school officials, including the elementary principal, secondary principal and SPED director, and local board president explained the progress they are making toward their goals and identified strategies they are using to accomplish those goals. Challenges and opportunities to progress were discussed. Two additional guests attended the presentation including a consultant and Isanti school board member.

The Schuyler Superintendent, two Assistant Principals, Secondary Principal/Director of Student Services, instructional coach/EL Transitional Counselor participated in a question-and-answer session to describe their Continuous Improvement Plan, explain accomplishments with Newcomers, Chronic Absenteeism, School Culture, and describe challenges in reaching priority plan goals.

ACTION ITEMS

2.1.A. On the recommendation of NDE staff, the committee supports removing Schuyler Central High School from Priority School Designation as an action item at the board meeting.

2.1.B. NDE Staff explained the need to contract with one or more consultants to provide intensive Priority School Supports for 2022-2023 (July-June). The hope is that through the RFP process, several contractors will be identified who could potentially meet the diverse kinds of supports that exist for priority schools. The committee recommends the board take action to authorize the commissioner to contract with one or more consultants to be determined for services and support 2022-2023.

2.1.C. and 2.1.D NDE staff recommended that the board authorize the Commissioner to contract with DRC and with NWEA for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023. The DRC contract provides the NSCAS alternate assessment for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities whereas the NWEA contract is for the development and administration of NSCAS Growth. The committee reviewed contract summaries at a previous committee meeting and supports the recommendation of NDE staff that the Commissioner be authorized to contract with DRC and that the Commissioner be authorized to contract with NWEA for assessment services in 2022-2023.

There were no DISCUSSION ITEMS

COMMITTEE UPDATES

2.3.B. NDE Staff provided an update on the development of the College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics development. The staff referred the committee to a summary of survey data from the Public Input Survey and to the running College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics Revision Process Overview document. Committee members were asked to read and review the documents which are posted in Sparq.

This concludes the Planning and Evaluation Committee report.

Patti Gubbels, Chair

*Submit a printed copy to the Committee Chair and email to the Recording Secretary.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 19, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Shirley Vargas, Ed.L.D.
School Transformation Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Remove Schuyler Central High School from Priority School Designation.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Per Nebraska Statute 79-760.06, the State board is required to designate no fewer than three Priority Schools. This statute also grants the State Board the authority to remove schools from Priority School Status.

The NDE is recommending the removal of Schuyler Central High School from Priority School status based on progress made over the past three years as outlined in their Priority School Progress Plan.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: N/A

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: N/A
- New or Renewal: N/A
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



2019-22 SCHUYLER PRIORITY
SCHOOL RATINGS

SPRING 2021-22 REPORT



PRIORITY RATING COMPARISON

Our team of administrators reviews our progress on every improvement goal as well as each action step in our priority plan multiple times a year. The admin team reviews and scores each section of the plan on a scale from 1 to 4. 1=Not Yet Evident, 2=Emerging, 3=Operational, 4=Highly Functioning. Our goal is to have 3's and 4's for every action step. At this same time, our consultants review and scoring each section.

Once our team review has been completed, we meet with our consultants, compare scores and discuss discrepancies. Each team discusses the action steps, provides evidence in support of their score and we come to a consensus for the final score, which is provided in this document. A score for each action step is shown on the bottom of the page, an average goal score from each rating window (Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021 and Spring 2022). Two improvement goals were added in 2020, so some data in 2019 will be scored as "NA."

Priority School Progress Plan

The Progress Plan for Priority Schools under AQuESTT is intended to identify improvement areas; outline goals, actions, strategies for continuous improvement, and measurable indicators of progress; establish timelines for improvement; identify resources to support improvement efforts; and cite evidence to monitor progress. Additional information (e.g., school data, reports, improvement plans, etc.) may also accompany the Progress Plan in order to provide rationale(s) for improvement goals and to document progress efforts as evidenced in our upcoming presentations in May and June to our local school board and the Nebraska State Board of Education.

Where we are
TODAY

STUDENT INTERVIEW RESPONSES

One of our priority goals is Interview students from each class (9th-12th grade) to continue to investigate real barriers to a 4-year graduation expectation and so that their voices inform decisions that are meant to support student success and on-time graduation. This past year, we interviewed 26 students. The process was led by Dr. Head from KLK and Mark Brady from ESU 7. The following are just a few quotes from their discussion.

My classmates push me to do better; the teachers--they want us to succeed.

Teachers are willing to help us. -The people are nice. -They treat us well here. -There are teachers that will help you bump up your grade when you are struggling. They are nice and willing to help. -The teachers don't want to see you fail, so they do what they can to help. -The teachers provide good support -If I need something in my learning, I can get extra help.

Feels good to be a student at Schuyler! Others are noticing we are a better school.

Teachers and students are trying to change the perception of Schuyler....We are Schuyler!

Teachers are open-minded and help us the best way they can
Teachers are understanding and they try their best to help you
I have so many options as a student-- classes, extracurriculars. Very thankful for the opportunities we have!

Themes:

- Teacher flexibility and support of student learning is a strength.
- Evidence of strong relationships between teachers and students is a strength.
- Kids are appreciative of their opportunities here at SCHS.
- The older the students, the more motivated they seemed to be with their education.
- Students are interested in goal setting conversations, but they haven't had them consistently.
- Students do not see COVID as a major issue in the school (Our students can easily adapt).
- School counselors are greatly appreciated.
- Students appreciate the availability of teachers to help them succeed (before or after school, Friday intervention).

Opportunities:

- Expanding intentional goal setting conversations with all students.
- Exploring ways to motivate the younger students (interest surveys, goal setting, etc)
- Exposing students to career opportunities at the middle school level so that we can build on it here. Doing some course planning at the beginning of 8th grade.
- Create a 5-year academic plan beginning in 8th grade or upon entry into our school.

Student Voices



Improvement Goal: During the 2018-2022 school years, Schuyler Central High School and all stakeholders (i.e. district administrators school administrators, students, teaching and classified staff, local school board members, parents/guardians, community members) will engage in a systematic, clearly documented, inclusive and comprehensive process to communicate the school purpose and direction through a shared commitment to its vision, mission, beliefs, and core values in order to ensure student success, which includes meeting the cognitive, emotional, social and physical needs of each student as measured by perceptual survey data and artifacts (meeting agendas, data analysis, newsletters, revised vision/mission/values, interviews, etc.).

Sp 19 Sp20 Sp21 Sp22

- | | | | | |
|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. Create and communicate a school vision, mission, core beliefs, core values and meeting norms so that a shared purpose and coherent effort permeates throughout the school and community. | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| 2. Increase the frequency, clarity, and variety of two-way communication in a timely and efficient manner so that all stakeholders (i.e. students, staff, parents/guardians, community) will increase their knowledge of and commitment to the school vision, mission, core values, and goals. | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| 3. Create /Complete a comprehensive review of programs implemented at Schuyler Central High School so that the school can measure the return on investment and the effectiveness of each program as it relates to the school's goals. | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4. Ensure families are included in the decision-making process to inform students' academic and behavioral plans and goals by encouraging participation in conferences at least once each semester so that families are empowered to be partners in their student's education. | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| 5. Provide monthly Clear, Compelling Direction implementation reports to the School Board so that the School Board is supportive and kept abreast of the implementation of strategies from the Priority School Progress Plan. | 2 | 2 | 4 | 3 |

**CLEAR AND
COMPELLING
DIRECTION-
MISSION DRIVEN**

Average Goal Score
Spring 19 -2.00
Spring 20 -2.40
Spring 21 -3.20
Spring 22 -3.40

SCHUYLER

Improvement Goal: During the 2019-2022 school years, Schuyler Central High School will reduce its chronic absenteeism rate by five percent annually (this percent decrease matches the State chronic absenteeism reduction percentage).

1. Continue meeting with the attendance team to implement the SCHS Attendance Protocol; and to examine and report real-time attendance data to staff monthly so that student and school-wide attendance improves and data findings are reported to all stakeholders.
2. Provide professional development for attendance intervention specialists so that evidence-based support is offered in a timely manner to chronically absent students to ensure they are on-track for graduation.
3. Consistently communicate and implement the school-wide campaign to heighten the importance of on-time and daily attendance (to include the tardy policy and time-for-time instructional time make up opportunities) so that students and families understand the importance of being on time and in school.
4. Ensure use of the notification system and follow up to provide reminders to students and families related to attendance rates, absences, important dates to remember, etc. so that students and families receive constant communication using various modalities and school personnel ensure the accuracy of student attendance data.

Sp 19 Sp20 Sp21 Sp22

	Sp 19	Sp20	Sp21	Sp22
1.	NA	3	3	3
2.	NA	3	2	3
3.	NA	2	2	4
4.	NA	3	3	4

**CLEAR AND
COMPELLING
DIRECTION-
CHRONIC
ABSENTEEISM**

Average Goal Score
 Spring 19 -NA
 Spring 20 -2.75
 Spring 21 -2.50
 Spring 22 -3.50

SCHUYLER

Improvement Goal: Schuyler Central High School will identify and construct strategies to remove barriers to student learning, track graduation progress annually for 100% of students, and increase graduation rates to at or above the State average by 2021-2022.

Sp19 Sp20 Sp21 Sp22

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| <p>1. Implement the SCHS Intervention Protocol to ensure the “failure is not final” mindset and utilize supports for student learning (such as intervention, counseling, Alternative Ed program, a focus on learning versus grading, improved Newcomers program, credit recovery, Warrior Achievement Center, etc.) so that barriers are removed from learning and students master intended content standards.</p> | <p>NA 3 2 3</p> |
| <p>2. Coach all teachers in “Capturing Kids Hearts” so that staff implement strategies to develop a relational mindset and connection with students.</p> | <p>NA 3 4 4</p> |
| <p>3. Interview students from each class (9th-12th graders) to continue to investigate real barriers to a 4-year graduation expectation so that their voices inform decisions meant to support student success and on-time graduation (Face-to-face focus groups, School Refusal Survey, Thought Exchange for parents and students).</p> | <p>NA 3 3 4</p> |
| <p>4. Implement APEX and a systematic plan to intentionally intervene with students falling behind credit expectations for each cohort so that students graduate on time.</p> | <p>NA 2 3 3</p> |
| <p>5. Implement the SCHS Assessment/Data Protocol to ensure bimonthly process monitoring enabling PLC’s to focus on data from formative assessments (Star 360, MAP data, teacher developed) so that teachers use the data to inform instruction to enable students to master deficient skills.</p> | <p>NA 1 2 3</p> |
| <p>6. Create and implement a systematic plan to promote accessibility for students to courses that are suited for a blended learning model before, during and after school so that students are able to graduate on time.</p> | <p>NA 2 3 3</p> |



**CLEAR AND
COMPELLING
DIRECTION-
GRADUATION
RATE**

Average Goal Score
Spring 19 -NA
Spring 20 -2.50
Spring 21- 3.00
Spring 22 -3.33

SCHUYLER

Improvement Goal: During the 2018-2022 school years, Schuyler Central High School will establish, implement and communicate a climate of high expectations for teaching and learning while ensuring the academic, emotional and physical safety for students as measured by stakeholder perceptual survey data.

	Sp 19	Sp20	Sp21	Sp22
1. Provide coaching (each teacher 2x per quarter or more) and professional development for teachers on evidence-based instructional practices that support student mastery so that students feel academically safe to take risks with learning.	2	3	3	4
2. Develop common expectations regarding teacher use of evidence-based strategies and proficiency scales so that classroom instruction is engaging and high expectations for student learning are upheld consistently throughout the building.	2	2	3	4
3. Develop a culture of constant feedback for teachers through coaching (2x per quarter per teacher), observation, PLC discussions, and peer interactions so that teachers develop a collective sense of efficacy focused on creating and implementing a common instructional language within the school.	3	3	3	4
4. Implement school-wide norms for PLC collaboration so that all meetings have purpose and direction.	2	3	3	4
5. Provide monthly Student and Staff Culture Progress Plan implementation reports to the School Board so that the School Board is supportive and kept abreast of the implementation of strategies from the Priority School Progress Plan.	2	2	4	4

STUDENT AND STAFF CULTURE

Average Goal Score
 Spring 19 -2.20
 Spring 20 -2.60
 Spring 21 -3.20
 Spring 22 -4.00



Improvement Goal: All students will be challenged and supported to achieve a high standard of academic performance and growth and will demonstrate proficiency in globally competitive skills such as critical thinking, innovation, problem solving, communication and collaboration to ensure they are prepared for postsecondary education, careers, etc. as measured by assessment data, certifications, dual credit coursework, graduation rate, etc.

Sp 19 Sp20 Sp21 Sp22

1. Define and communicate a set of attributes, referred to as a graduate profile, that are critical for success and inspire, motivate, and guide the work of students, teachers, administrators and the School Board so that Schuyler Central High School students are future ready.	2	2	3	4
2. Evaluate the current Career Education System and create a system for pathway attainment so that the high priority changes for improvement and alignment to community needs are identified and a plan of action is created to ensure students are future ready.	2	2	4	3
3. Utilize Capturing Kids' Hearts during FOCUS time so that relationships are strengthened and students realize their potential.	2	2	3	3
4. Provide monthly Instructional Leadership: Career and College Readiness Plan implementation reports to the School Board so that the School Board is supportive and kept abreast of the implementation of strategies from the Priority School Progress Plan.	2	2	4	4

**INSTRUCTIONAL
LEADERSHIP-
COLLEGE,
CAREER, AND
CIVIC READINESS**

Average Goal Score
Spring 19 -2.00
Spring 20 -2.00
Spring 21 -3.50
Spring 22 -3.50

SCHUYLER

Improvement Goal: During the 2018-2022 school years, EL students will develop language acquisition and cognitive academic language skills in order to grasp the academic, social and cultural aspects of the English language to be successful students and members of society as evidenced by multiple data sources to include ELPA21 scores, ACT scores, student perceptual data, etc.

	Sp 19	Sp20	Sp21	Sp22
1. Teachers will use the stages of language acquisition so that classroom strategies support English language development across the curriculum and support student cultural identity.	1	3	3	3
2. All teachers will learn and implement effective EL strategies (with a focus on vocabulary acquisition and Cornell Notes, newly acquired Kagan Cooperative Learning and other engagement strategies and mental models - multiple representations, differentiation, graphic organizers, advance organizers, etc.) in their classrooms so that EL students are receiving consistent strategies that are purposeful, intentional, explicit and provide meaningful access to English Language proficiency and content standards with appropriate scaffolds and supports.	2	2	2	3
3. Coach and ensure implementation of EL strategies in all content areas throughout the year so that all EL models of instruction are implemented with fidelity and ensure that resources are allocated effectively to implement strategies and program models.	1	2	2	3
4. Implement SCHS Onboarding procedures, pedagogical scaffolds and academic plans for Newcomers so that students can reach their full potential.	2	2	4	4
5. Provide monthly Instructional Leadership: English Learners implementation reports to the School Board so that the School Board is supportive and kept abreast of the implementation of strategies from the Priority School Progress Plan.				

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP- ENGLISH LEARNERS

Average Goal Score
Spring 19 -1.40
Spring 20 -2.20
Spring 21 -2.60
Spring 22 -3.22



Improvement Goal: By May 2022, students at Schuyler Central High School will have equitable access to a high-quality education to achieve their full potential as a result of universal instruction aligned to Nebraska standards, strong Tier 2 and Tier 3 academic supports as needed and personalized learning opportunities as evidenced by multiple measures to include growth indicators on the MAP assessment, ACT data, perceptual data, etc.

	Sp 19	Sp20	Sp21	Sp22
1. Align materials, instruction and assessments to the Nebraska Content Area Standards and ACT standards so that daily lessons are enhanced to support the learning needs of each student.	2	2	2	3
2. Provide release time for teachers on scheduled workdays to align curriculum, instruction and assessment to Nebraska Standards so that adequate time is available to intentionally plan engaging lessons for students.	1	3	4	4
3. Provide professional development, implementation accountability and coaching follow up on high probability instructional strategies so that a common instructional language is created within the school in every classroom.	2	3	3	4
4. Provide monthly Instructional Leadership: Alignment of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment implementation reports to the School Board so that the School Board is supportive and kept abreast of the implementation of strategies from the Priority School Progress Plan.	2	2	4	4

"These ratings not only illustrate the immense work that goes into the implementation of the strategies, but the degree to which they are sustained over time and consistently applied across the school."

-Dr. Shirley Vargas-

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP- ALIGNMENT OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND ASSESSMENT

Average Goal Score
Spring 19 -1.75
Spring 20 -2.50
Spring 21 -3.25
Spring 22 -3.75





UNMC: College of Nursing
Welcome to UNMC
College of Nursing

Schuyler Central High School Continuous Improvement Progress June 2022



Sustainable
Improvement Goals
and Actions

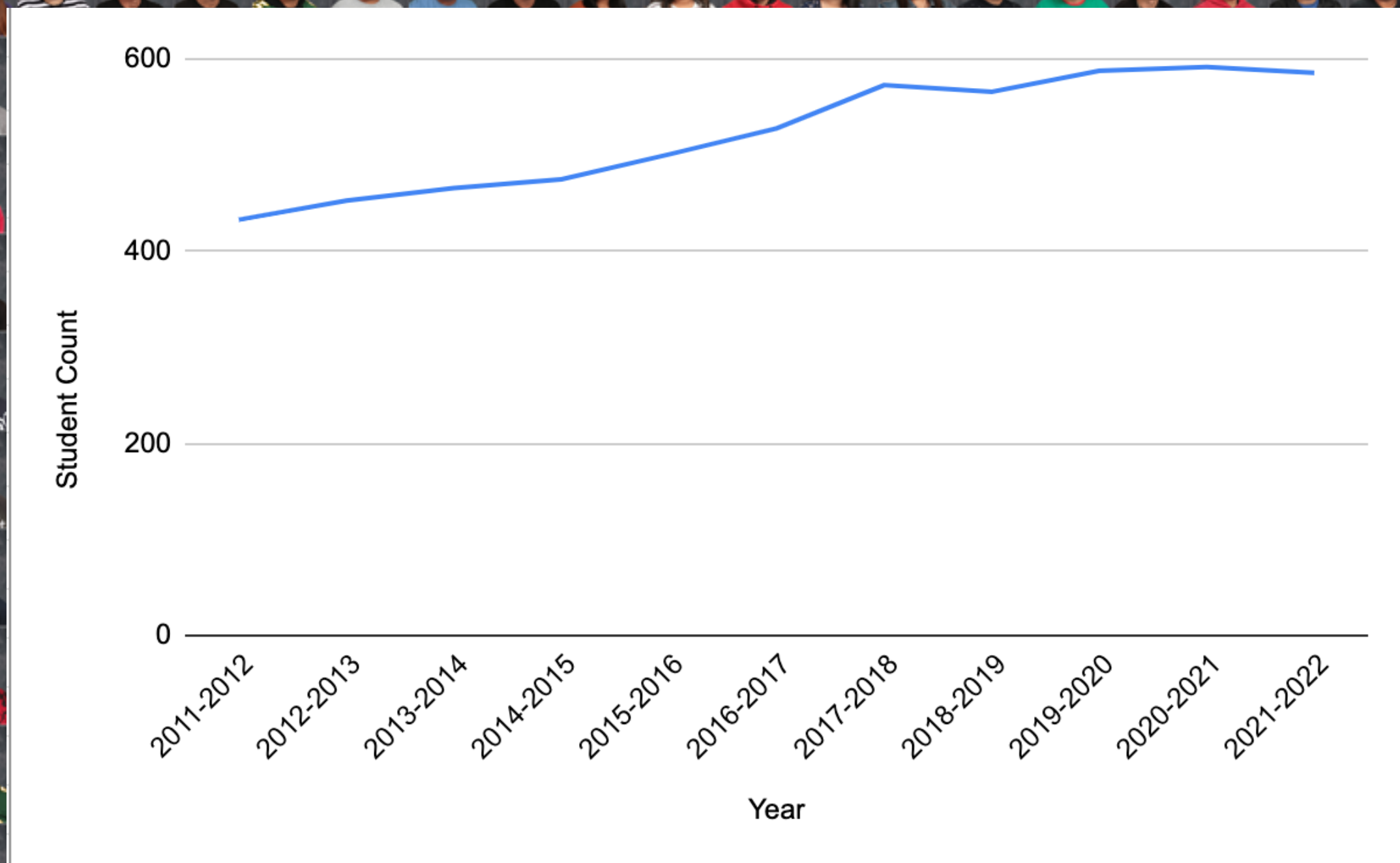
Schuyler Central High School

PRIORITY SCHOOL REPORT 2022

WE ARE SCHUYLER!

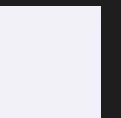


SCHS Student Enrollment



Student Voice

- "Teachers here get very close to you and help you."
- "Counselors support us when we need help and are willing to have conversations with us."
- "They treat us well here."
- "Teachers-they care- they stay after school and show that they will be there for you even though they are busy."
- "If I am tired and don't want to do my homework, my friends encourage and tell me it's worth it in the end."
- "My focus teacher talks with us to set goals, but we can set it 1 or 2 points higher if we want."



Staff



Administration



Travis Steinhoff
9-12 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

MR. STEINHOFF HAS BEEN AN ADMINISTRATOR IN SCHUYLER FOR 1 YEAR.



Samantha Ladwig
9-12 ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

MRS. LADWIG IS AN SCHS GRADUATE AND HAS BEEN A TEACHER AND ADMINISTRATOR IN SCHUYLER FOR 4 YEARS.



Dr. Joey Lefdal
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES
9-12 PRINCIPAL

DR. LEFDAL HAS BEEN WITH THE DISTRICT FOR FOUR YEARS AND HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN A PRINCIPAL AND SUPERINTENDENT.

Instructional Coach



Brandi Zavadil
INSTRUCTIONAL COACH
EL TRANSITIONAL COUNSELOR

MRS. ZAVADIL HAS BEEN A TEACHER, EL TRANSITIONAL COUNSELOR, AND INSTRUCTIONAL COACH AT SCHS FOR 6 YEARS.

Report Contents

Part 1: Mission and Core Values

Part 2: Priority School Goals and Progress

Part 3: Continuous Improvement Plan





Schuyler Central High School

Part 1:

Mission and Core Values



Mission

Schuyler Community Schools, in **partnership** with parents, students and the community, is committed to **educating students** to become **skilled, knowledgeable and responsible citizens** in a global society.

Core Values

Respect

Responsibility

Work Ethic



Part 2:

Mission Driven

Chronic Absenteeism

Graduation Rate

Student and Staff Culture

7 Priority Plan Goals

Instructional Leadership
College, Career, and
Civic Readiness

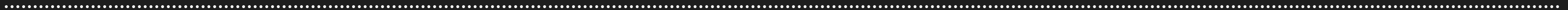
English Learners

Aligning Curriculum and
Instruction



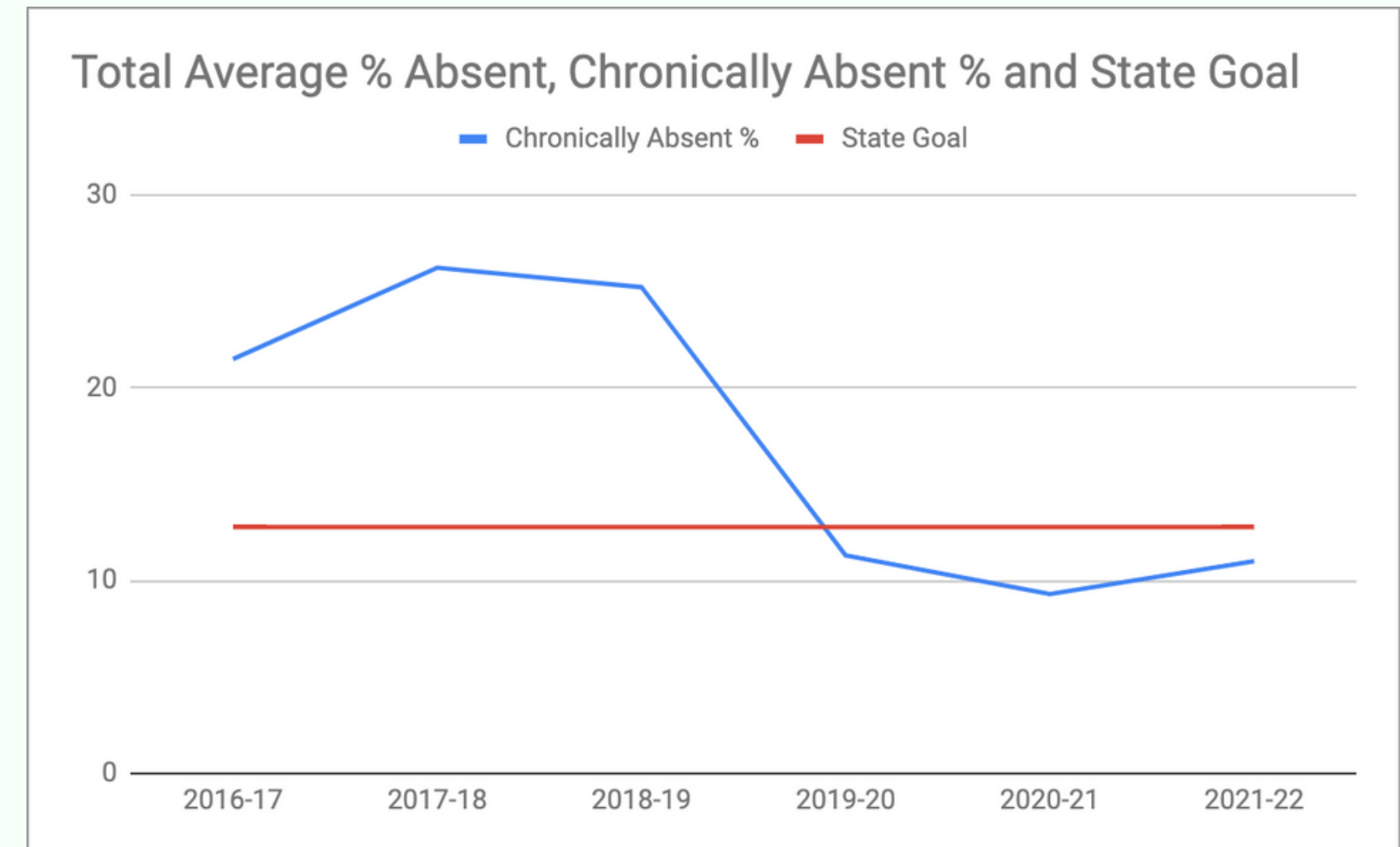
2021-2022 Focus Goals

- Reduce Chronic Absenteeism
- Increase Graduation Rates
- Improve EL Proficiency Rates
- Increase High Quality Teaching and Learning



Reduce Chronic Absenteeism

- Communicated information about attendance campaign, "Every Minute Counts," to students, staff, and community (announcements, newsletter, board reports, digital signage, social media, etc.)
- Worked as an attendance team to develop practices for students to recover time
- Decreased tardies through a focus on recovering time
 - We recovered 55,888 minutes so far this year, not including time students will recover in our summer program.
- Increased capacity for distance learning opportunities (long-term absences, working students, COVID, student maternity, etc.)
- After summer recovery we predict we will have approximately 11% chronic absenteeism.
- **Met with students in need of attendance intervention to create plans for attendance recovery**



"Teachers are so supportive-if I am sick, I email the teachers and they email me the work and I get it done."



Increase Graduation Rate

- Increased daily course offerings from 7 to 8 periods.
- Implemented intervention/enrichment during the instructional day on Fridays to focus on individual learning needs
- Interviewed students to investigate barriers that impede attendance and on-time graduation
- Implemented APEX opportunities for credit recovery and acceleration toward graduation
- Promoted a mindset where "Failure Isn't Final" through intervention, student goal setting, CTE career pathways, and increased dual credit offerings
- Strengthened relationships between and among staff and students using "Capturing Kids' Hearts" and FOCUS

	4-Year SCHS	5-Year SCHS	6-Year SCHS	7-Year SCHS
2015		92.80	92.86	92.86
2016	82.73	86.24	87.16	87.16
2017	86.72	86.82	87.60	87.60
2018	86.36	89.47	89.47	89.47
2019	78.47	83.22	83.92	N/A
2020	75.97	78.71	N/A	N/A
2021	86.00	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022	86.00			



Percentage of Students Emerging

Grade	2017-2018 ELPA 21 % Emerging	2018-2019 ELPA 21 % Emerging	2019-2020 ELPA 21 % Emerging	2020-2021 ELPA 21 % Emerging	2021-2022 ELPA 21 % Emerging
9th Grade	53%	40%	62%	31%	51%
10th Grade	74%	48%	58%	45%	26%
11th Grade	68%	58%	48%	36%	29%
12th Grade	43%	60%	39%	29%	37%

2016-2017 86% of students were emerging
2021-2022 38% of students are emerging

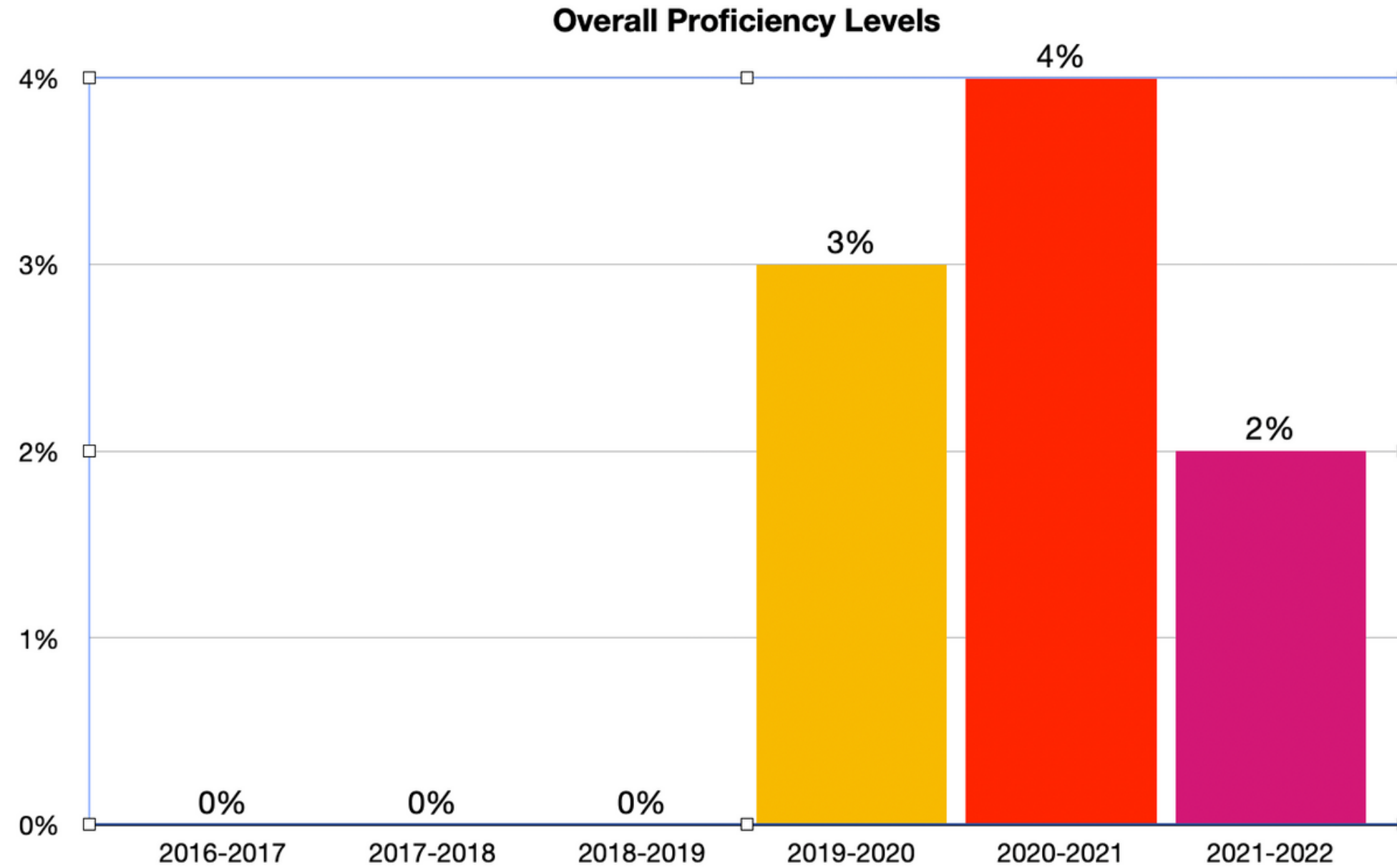
Percentage of Students Progressing

Grade	2017-2018 ELPA 21 % Progressing	2018-2019 ELPA 21 % Progressing	2019-2020 ELPA 21 % Progressing	2020-2021 ELPA 21 % Progressing	2021-2022 ELPA 21 % Progressing
9th Grade	47%	60%	35%	67%	49%
10th Grade	26%	48%	37%	55%	67%
11th Grade	32%	39%	52%	55%	71%
12th Grade	57%	40%	61%	67%	67%

Increase EL Proficiency Rates

- Implemented Newcomer’s program to strengthen onboarding and acquisition of language
- Met and set goals with all of our EL students prior to ELPA 21 testing
- Improved language acquisition through use of word walls, graphic organizers, and note taking strategies (Word Web, Cornell Notes, etc.)
- Focused on engagement strategies to practice listening, speaking, reading, and writing
- Partnered with Allyson Olson and Anne Hubbell from NDE for professional development and guidance
- Utilized Ellevation to differentiate instruction
- Supported teacher-led writing across content areas initiative
- Spent an enormous amount of time on professional development with our teachers focused on supporting our EL students across content areas

Our Goal: Increase EL Proficiency Rates



2016 - 2019 - 0% Proficient

2020 - 2022 - 9% Proficient



Increase High Quality Teaching and Learning

- Met and set goals with all students prior to each MAP testing session
- **Met and set goals with all 10th and 11th grade students prior to Pre-ACT and ACT testing**
- **The administrators and instructional coach logged 1119 classroom visits and coaching opportunities this school year compared to 527 in 2020-21.**
- Provided professional learning opportunities to refine proficiency scales, review data to inform instruction, and vertically align the Nebraska standards
- Aligned Nebraska standards and ACT standards to our instruction
- **241 dual credit courses through CCC and WSC were taken in the 2021-22 school year**
- Focused on engagement and differentiation strategies to increase student learning
- Provided release time for teachers to plan high quality lessons
- Provided ACT Prep to students two evenings per week

Spring 2021 Pre-ACT to Spring 2022 ACT Projected and Actual Scores Junior Class

ACT Class of 2023	Spring 2021 Projected Pre-ACT	Spring 2022 Actual ACT Composite	Pre to Post Gains/Loss
Reading	16.5	16.5	0
English	12.9	15.1	2.2
Math	16.6	16.5	-0.1
Science	16.7	17.2	0.5
Overall	15.8	17.5	1.7

ACT Average Scale Scores 2016-2022

Year	ACT Average Scale Scores
2016-17	16.0
2017-18	16.2
2018-19	16.7
2019-20*	17.0
2020-21	15.7
2021-22	17.5



Board of Education Support

Monthly Newsletters



Priority Plan Evaluation Update



Nurse Contracts 5/6/2022 at 1:25 PM

V. Discussion Items and Reports

V.A. Review the May Priority School Report
Rationale:
Priority Plan Update: This past month we were able to meet with our consultants on three different occasions. We met on April 13th, 14th, and 28th. We had a long list of to-do items, but I feel the meetings went well and were very productive. We spent a great deal of time working on our presentation to the state board, as well as reviewing our instructional playbook for next year, our priority review, discussions on assessment, culture, and a variety of other topics. With Dr. Head, we discussed ACT implementation and celebrations as well as coaching logs, collecting data, and embedding ACT standards into bellringers. We also spent a great deal of time just working on aligning our strategic plan to our transition plan for the priority school.

We continue to visit and coach a number of teachers every week as well as complete formal evaluations.

We also spent part of the day reviewing our progress plan ratings and on areas that we rated as areas of focus for the remaining part of the year. Again, this was a very good use of our time. It gave us time to reflect on what we have been doing, and what we can do to continue to make the remaining part of this year a success. Again, this has been an excellent process, and I feel we are doing some amazing things here at Schuyler Central High. We will meet with our consultants in May to complete the final year ratings for our plan.

Below is a link to our priority plan, as well as our SCHS newsletter. Again, if you have any questions or concerns, don't be afraid to contact one of the high school administrators.

https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/908802/Draft_2018-2021_Schuyler_Priority_Plan__1_.pdf
<https://sll.co/nlw>

V.B. Principals Reports
Rationale:

Preschool/SES /3-5 Principal's Report: Mr. Comley
Program/Staff Member Spotlight: This month I would like to highlight Cara Neesen. Mrs. Neesen has been a tremendous asset to Schuyler

Monthly Board Meeting Agenda Item



Part 3:

2022-2024 Continuous Improvement Plan

2022-2024 Continuous Improvement Plan

Goal 1: Implement the Schuyler Instructional Model with a focus on alignment of curriculum, instruction, and assessment. (H7.1 & SP6.1, SP6.4)

- Identify and use critical content from the Nebraska and ACT Standards through the use of Standards-Based Learning professional development from Learning Sciences International on May 23 and July 25. First quarter planned by July 25; October PD time to work on quarter 2 (Show progression from trainings)
- Develop and implement standards-based learning targets that demonstrate a progression of learning up to and beyond the grade-level rigor of the standards.
- Create and utilize an instructional playbook aligned to the Schuyler Instructional Model and formative assessments by September 15.
- Provide coaching opportunities for each teacher at least 2x per quarter.
- Implement the SCHS data and assessment protocol.
- At least 90% of teachers will be trained on the Classroom Learning Process System (CLPS) in August to implement for teacher self-reflection, a guide for coaching, and rigorous instruction throughout the school year.
- Ensure remote learning protocols support student learning needs.

2022-2024 Continuous Improvement Plan

Goal 2: Expand access to academic opportunities for new arrivals, EL, special needs, and at-risk students. (H6.3, H6.4 & SP7.3, SP7.7)

- Utilize Ellevation professional development modules during common plans once a month to expand K-12 EL professional development in English language instruction
- Coach and ensure implementation of EL strategies in all content areas throughout the year by continuing utilization of our coaching log with an average of 10 observations per week.
- Assess graduation progress by the end of the first quarter and continue to utilize credit recovery/online programs for on track graduation.
- Recovery plans will be developed quarterly to reduce chronic absenteeism and tardies.
- Ensure programming meets the needs of all students by the completion of program reviews based on the rotational schedule (especially SPED and EL students).
- Continue goal setting and quarterly progress monitoring conversations with students.



2022-2024 Continuous Improvement Plan

Goal 3: Develop and implement a Multi-Tiered System of Support that informs core instruction, intervention and enrichment expectations to ensure the success of every student. (H3.1, H3.4 & SP9.1 - 9.4)

- **Create an overall district system that differentiates for specific building needs (MTSS)**
- **Utilize screening, progress monitoring, and data collection tools to inform classroom instruction, intervention and enrichment.**
- **Research, share and implement evidence-based intervention and enrichment strategies, resources, and programs throughout the school year.**
- **Utilize the SAT and problem-solving model to create and implement individualized plans for at-risk students to reduce out-of-class disruptions and increase learning opportunities for students.**

2022-2024 Continuous Improvement Plan

Goal 4: Expand CTE programs and improve access to college credit and post-secondary program enrollment (H5.1, H5.2 & SP13.3)

- **Expand career pathway options to ensure students have certification and endorsement opportunities.**
- **Communicate the Schuyler Central High School Attributes of a Future-Ready Graduate to students, teachers, administrators, families, and the school board.**
- **Expand access and communicate dual credit course offerings for juniors and seniors.**



2022-2024 Continuous Improvement Plan

Goal 5: Expand recruitment, development, and retention of a quality workforce, and promote community involvement and residency in the school district. (SP6.1, SP6.3 & SP43.1)

- Diligently recruit student teachers, teachers, and other educators throughout the school year.
- Expand the orientation program for new teachers by provided professional learning opportunities led by expert teachers and administration at least once a month and continue monthly social outings to build relationships.
- Research, identify and implement opportunities to transition new staff into the school community to develop a sense of belonging.



2022-2024 Continuous Improvement Plan

Goal 6: Implement strategies to improve communication and promote family and community engagement (H1.1, H1.2, H1.4 & SP39.1 - 39.8)

- **Promote and expand community and business relationships to encourage family and community involvement in school and at school activities by honoring students at weekly Sertoma meetings, partnering with local businesses to support our CTE Pathways, inviting community members to speak at student and family activities, etc.**
- **Explore options to expand communications with all families and community patrons using electronic platforms, advertising, message boards, weekly and monthly newsletters, local newspaper, social media, and the Rooms application.**
- **Continue to find ways to increase parental engagement through fall and spring open houses, family nights, parent-teacher/student-led conferences, newsletters, etc.**



State Speech
Send-off



Value Add Coaching



Girl's Wrestling



State Track



District One Act
Champions

2021 Strategic Plan Goals

- 1. Academic Programs:** *Core Curriculum, Vocational and Elective Course Offerings, College Credit/Early Entry, Alternative Education/Credit Recovery, Special Education Programs, Early Childhood Education and Title I, Rural Attendance Centers, Bi-lingual or Dual-language Programs*

Goal: All students meet or exceed state standards in core academic areas.

Goal: K-12 curriculum that supports critical thinking, creativity, 21st century technology & vocational skills, visual & performing arts and bilingual education.
- 2. School Activities Program:** *Athletics, Fine Arts, Vocational and Social Clubs*

Goal: All students participate in school activities that promote teamwork, physical fitness, work ethic, honesty, self-confidence, and sportsmanship.
- 3. Technology Program:** *IT infrastructure, Hardware and Software, Curriculum and Training*

Goal: State-of-the-art technology program to improve access and learning for students and promote an effective learning environment.
- 4. Transportation Program:** *Vehicles/Fleet, Transportation System, Traffic Management Arrival and Dismissal*

Goal: Safe and efficient transportation system.
- 5. Building and Grounds Program:** *Maintenance/Reporting System, New Construction/Remodel Program, and Safety Program*

Goal: Secure, quality, modern educational facilities.
- 6. Support Programs:** *Food Service, Nursing, Health, Emergency/Crisis, and Para-Educator Programs*

Goal: Quality Food Service, Nursing, Para-Educator, Substitute Employees, and Safety/Security
- 7. School Governance and Public Relations:** *School Board, Administration, Guidance and Counseling, Parent Involvement, Business Partnerships*

Goal: Board and Administration reflect quality leadership, management and communication skills to promote staff morale and involvement from all stakeholders.
- 8. School Climate (Students and Adults):** *Professional Development, Professional Conduct and Commitment, Program, Staffing/Assignment/Student/Teacher Ratio, Learning Environment, Behavior Management*

Goal: Create and support a safe, positive, caring learning environment focused on improvement and success.

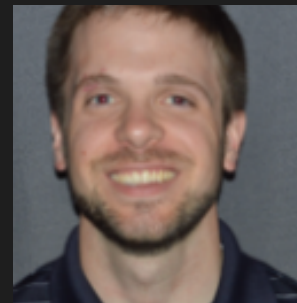
Strategic Plan

Acknowledgement and Resources

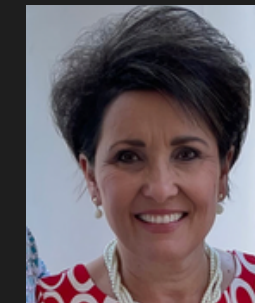
Priority School Support Team



Dr. Dan Hoelsing
SUPERINTENDENT



Mark Brady
ESU 7 REPRESENTATIVE



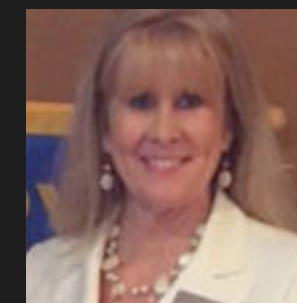
Dr. Kathy Kennedy
KLK CONSULTANT



Dr. Dave Gibbons
DIRECTOR OF TEACHING
AND LEARNING



Dr. Shirley Vargas
NDE SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT OFFICER



Dr. Tanya Head
KLK CONSULTANT

**SCHUYLER
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Website <https://www.schuylercommunityschools.org/o/schs>

**Phone
Number** 402-352-2421

**Email
Address** joey.lefdal@schuylercommunityschools.org

Thank you!

Contact us for additional information.

401

WELCOME
TO OUR SCHOOL
We hope you enjoy
your visit.
Thank you!
BIENVENIDOS!
A NUESTRA ESCUELA
Esperamos que disfruten
su visita.
Gracias por venir!



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 19, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Shirley Vargas, Ed.L.D.
School Transformation Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with one or more contractor(s) to be determined for services and support to Nebraska's Priority Schools for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Per 79-760.07 R.R.S., the State Board is required to designate no less than three Priority Schools. As part of the supports provided by the NDE, external consultants have been contracted to provide intensive supports for Priority Schools based on school needs, including diagnostic reviews, on-site observation and coaching with administrators, school improvement planning and implementation of Progress Plans, partnership, and skill-building with NDE staff, and off-site support and follow-up.

The NDE has deployed a Request for Proposal seeking bids on these contracts, which may include work in all or one Priority School(s). The proposal also includes flexibility to add additional Priority Schools to be served by this/these consultants.

With this authority, the NDE could immediately enter into contract with the organization(s) to begin the work of supporting Priority Schools over the summer.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$300,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: General Funds
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 23, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Jeremy Heneger Ed.D.
Director of Statewide Assessment

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Action Item: Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with DRC for statewide assessment services in 2022-2023.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Contracts will allow the NDE to meet federal and state requirements for assessment.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): Action Item in June 2022

ESTIMATED COST:

DRC up to \$2,577,688

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Combination of Federal and State General Funds
- New or Renewal: New



Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System (NSCAS)
Statewide Summative Assessment Contracts – One Year Contracts
2022-2023

Contractor: NWEA

Contract Amount: Up to \$8,239,424

Contract Dates: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Contract Summary:

- Development and administration of NSCAS General Assessment:
 - NSCAS Growth (Three Administrations)
 - English Language Arts (ELA) – Grades 3-8
 - Mathematics – Grades 3-8
 - NSCAS Science (Spring Only)
 - Grades 5 & 8
- NSCAS General are custom Nebraska assessments with content developed by Nebraska educators:
 - Results used to meet state and federal accountability requirements
- Contract Also Includes:
 - NSCAS Formative Assessment Supports:
 - Assessment literacy and content-specific supports
 - NSCAS Professional Learning:
 - Nebraska Professional Learning Lead based at NDE
 - MAP Growth Certified Facilitator Program (72 statewide)
 - Custom program to improve the understanding and use of assessment results

Contractor: Data Recognition Corporation (DRC)

Contract Amount: Up to \$2,577,688

Contract Dates: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Contract Summary:

- Development and administration of NSCAS Alternate Assessment for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities (about 1% of student population):
 - English Language Arts (ELA) – Grades 3-8 & HS
 - Mathematics – Grades 3-8 & HS
 - Science – Grades 5, 8, & HS
 -
- NSCAS Alternate are custom Nebraska assessments with content developed by Nebraska educators.



Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System (NSCAS)
Statewide Summative Assessment Contracts – Two Year Contracts
2022-2023 & 2023-2024

Contractor: NWEA

Contract Dates: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024

Contract Amount: Up to \$16,576,443

	2022-23	2023-24	Total
NWEA	\$8,239,424	\$8,337,019	\$16,576,443

Contract Summary:

- Development and administration of NSCAS General Assessment:
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 - Nebraska Professional Learning Lead based at NDE.
 - MAP Growth Certified Facilitator Program (72 statewide).
 - Custom program to improve the understanding and use of assessment results.

Contractor: Data Recognition Corporation (DRC)

Contract Dates: July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2024

Contract Amount: Up to \$3,867,954

	2022-23	2023-24	Total
DRC	\$2,577,688	\$1,290,266	\$3,867,954

Contract Summary:

- Development and administration of NSCAS Alternate Assessment for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities (about 1% of student population):
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NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Jeremy Heneger Ed.D.
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RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Contracts will allow the NDE to meet federal and state requirements for assessment.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): Action Item in June 2022

ESTIMATED COST:

NWEA up to \$8,239,424

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Combination of Federal and State General Funds
- New or Renewal: New



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Statewide Summative Assessment Contracts – One Year Contracts
2022-2023

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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RULES AND REGULATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: June 2, 2022

“The Committee on Rules and Regulations reports that...

The Rules and Regulations Committee met on Thursday, June 2, 2022.

The committee reviewed the Report on Rules. Rule 24 is awaiting approval by the governor. Rule 51 was approved by the governor on May 12, 2022. The committee reviewed a draft revision of Bylaw B13: Rule Development. The committee provided NDE staff with feedback for further revision. Board members should review the draft and provide the committee chair with feedback by July 1, 2022. The committee intends to bring a final draft to the board at the August 2022 meeting for adoption.

This concludes the Rules and Regulations report.”

(Enter name of committee chair), Chair

*Submit a printed copy to the Committee Chair and email to the Recording Secretary.



TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner

FROM: Brenda Wid, Legal Services

DATE: May 18, 2022

SUBJECT: Report on Rules

RULES AWAITING APPROVAL FROM GOVERNOR


Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24, *Regulations for Certificate Endorsements*

Sent to Governor 12/10/2021

RULES APPROVED BY GOVERNOR

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51, *Regulations and Standards for Special Education Programs*

Approved by Governor 05/12/2022
Effective Date: 05/17/2022

 <p>Nebraska Department of Education Policy and Reference Manual</p>	<p>Bylaw Number B13</p>	<p>Page Number 1 of 2</p>
<p>State Board Bylaw B13 Rule Development</p>	<p>Created: 1976 Last Revised: 2015 Reviewed: 1978, 1984, 1995, 2006, 2015, 2019 Reaffirmed: 06/07/2019</p>	

The Rules and Regulations Committee (committee) is responsible for reviewing and recommending changes to the Commissioner and the Board on the rules and regulations of the State Department of Education adopted in accordance with the Nebraska Administrative Procedures Act. The Commissioner shall develop and maintain the procedures that direct the staff on the development, revision, and repeal of rules and regulations.

The Committee shall review each ~~Each rule or regulation~~ of the Department ~~will be reviewed at least every five~~ four years, although failure to conduct such a review shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any existing rule. Any proposed new rule, or possible changes to existing rules shall be reviewed by the Committee.

All rules submitted to the State Board for approval shall be in legislative format showing additions to, and deletions from, existing rules unless a majority of the rule chapter has been substantially revised. The State Board must give final approval to all rules and rule changes.

The Commissioner shall review and approve hearing drafts of rules. The Commissioner or his or her designee shall conduct rule hearings. The Commissioner shall notify the Board when rules are scheduled for hearing; provide a written summary of all hearing testimony to the full Board along with copies of all written testimony submitted; and shall make an audio recording of all hearings available to the full Board on request.

The rule dockets that are required to be maintained under the Administrative Procedures Act shall be maintained by the Legal Services Office.

Board Action History

- 12/10/76
Prior BCAE (Rule-making hearings)
Prior BD-1 (5-Year Review)
Prior BDBD-1 (Optional student rule review)
Prior BDC-1 (APA Rules)
Prior Form BCAE-E
Prior Form BDD-E-1
- 8/21/78 – Prior BDA – 1
(Rule development system policy.)
- 12/7/84 – Prior 9313 BOP
(Replaced prior policies – required 5-year review and legislative format drafts.)
- 12/8/95 – Prior B9
(Added rule hearing officials and rule dockets.)
- 9/7/06 – B9
(Added authority for Commissioner to approve rules and appoint hearing officers.)
- 9/4/15 – B9
(Added language that Commissioner shall review and approval hearing drafts of rule.)
- 03/03/2017 – B9(B13)
(Reorganized Board Policy Reference Manual with new designated letters for categories of policy [P], bylaws [B] and position statements [S]. B9 is now B13.)
- 06/07/2019 – B13
Reaffirmed.

Cross-References

- 84-906.1 R.R.S. – Rule dockets.
- 84-907 R.R.S. – Rule adoption after hearing.

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

Persons may address the Board for public comment purposes by written submission in lieu of live testimony. Such written submissions must be provided 24 hours in advance to the start of the public meeting where public comment is scheduled, or by close of business of the Thursday prior to any meeting scheduled for a Monday, and is limited to 750 words. Written public comments submitted in accordance with these requirements will be provided to the Board members and become part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

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Submissions must include your complete first and last name, city and state. You will also be required to electronically sign the submission. This information will be included with your comments.

Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Clayton Bruce and Cheryl

Last name *

Willis

City *

KEARNEY

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are still concerned at the huge amount of time that has been wasted in trying to push through CSE and CRT in the curriculum. Please stop. Our children need the education that challenges their minds and reasoning, not an indoctrinating point of view.

Our scores have been incredibly low across the state for just the basic core curriculum. Let's get back on track with letting teachers teach truth and challenge reasoning & good discussion. Our children will thrive. Let the parents be the parents and voice in decisions.

The school does have to be the "do-it-all-for-you nanny," and falsely believe they are always right. No. Please step back. Please let the parents and local communities take the lead.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Clayton B and Cheryl

Last name *

Willis

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Google Forms

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Darlene

Last name *

Lilienkamp

City *

Wayne

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Our students need to have solid core concepts taught--and NOT the trending "sex" and "gender" and "racial equity" things that seem to be invading our schools. These are topics that families need to deal with at home, NOT by some curriculum! Spending more time on reading fluency, math concepts, American and world history, science, are what should be done in school!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Darlene

Last name *

Lilienkamp

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Sandra

Last name *

Hollenbeck

City *

Omaha

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please have nothing to do with Planned Parenthood. Concentrate on Math, Reading etc. Leave sexual education to the parents. Allow parents to voice their opinions about the education their children are getting. The LGBTQ agenda has no place in our schools!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Sandra

Last name *

Hollenbeck

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Google Forms

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Crystal

Last name *

Anderson

City *

BEATRICE

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am keeping watch what is going on with the schools. I don't like what is going with the school system.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Crystal

Last name *

Anderson

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Amy

Last name *

Robinson

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing my testimony as I am unable to attend the meeting. I am going to say I am utterly disappointed that I am in a position where I still have to write to you out of concern for my child. In light of recent events that unfolded on Uvalde I feel we should be more focused on the safety of our schools than on gender identity or critical race theory. This is an absolute waste of money and time. Schools are for learning reading, writing, and math. As a parent I will not stand to have my child taught anything but academics. Clearly the focus needs to be on the basic subjects. All of this extra is damaging.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Amy

Last name *

Robinson

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Google Forms

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Karen

Last name *

Schulz

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Our schools need to focus on basic competencies and not push the liberal agenda—CRT, LGBTQ issues.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Karen

Last name *

Schulz

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Richard

Last name *

Mlinar

City *

Doniphan

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a past board member that was voted in by the people with the expectation of representing them it is clear that some of the board doesn't care. This fact is clear based on the news, the number of constituents that show up to request changes and the primaries showing we the people do care. It's no surprise that the leadership of the board can't do what is right. It's very clear that the November election is going to change the dynamics of the board. I believe when this happens that the commissioner and others may need to find a new job. Thanks for starting the little wave.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Richard

Last name *

Mlinar

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Elizabeth

Last name *

Davids

City *

LINCOLN

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We, the people of Nebraska, want this Board to focus on raising academic scores and promoting virtuous character in our schools, not crossing controversial cultural boundaries with the inclusion of LGBTQIA2S+ ideological content in the health standards. We want you to support teachers and staff, who are leaving the profession in droves, in practical and healthy ways. We want you to stick to the academic basics so our state's children get the best academic experience they can get in our state's government schools. We don't want you to add to the teachers' burden by requiring them to teach unacademic, unscientific sexual pleasure content that is included in comprehensive sex ed curriculum which your proposed health standards would necessitate. Stay in your lane, Board of Education. Focus on academics and let parents navigate the mental health of their children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Elizabeth

Last name *

Davids

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Jane

Last name *

Kinsey

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please focus on ways to improve math education which has a focus on established techniques for teaching this subjects to students. They have worked for years and should not be abandoned. Taking a tried and true method and corrupting it with efforts to impart critical race theory is wrong. No wonder the test scores are lower than the normal range in the past.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Jane

Last name *

Kinsey

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Tammy

Last name *

Hanel

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Education is no longer education. It hasn't been for quite some time. Having been a teacher, leaving the profession over 20 yrs ago, I understand why so many teachers are leaving today. The list is long as to why, but when you add garbage in the way of material, medical tyranny, indoctrination, & lack of support, you get more garbage. Many teachers have woken up & see the system they've been a part of & want nothing more to do with it!

Our daughter just graduated & couldn't get out of the system fast enough! She looks forward to going to a college where her Christian world view is appreciated & respected. Where she can share her faith without it being called a myth by teachers. Creating little robots to think the same & calling it education is what oppressors do. Those who have had a role in destroying education in our state will answer for it someday. Facing frustrated & angry parents is nothing compared to facing & answering God! There's always time to repent & do what's right until there isn't.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Tammy

Last name *

Hanel

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Vicki

Last name *

Johnson

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

NO updated sex standards, don't be a gross pervert. Keep planned Parenthood and siecus out of our schools. Stop putting pornographic materials and white hate books in the libraries. If it's too racy to even be read at school board meetings, why do our kids need access to it? That can be in a special section of the public libraries. Thus CRT / CST crap is out of control! Knock it off!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Vicki

Last name *

Johnson

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Esther

Last name *

Sander

City *

Seward

State *

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to let you know that many Nebraskans are watching you all. I, along with many others have been very disappointed with recent developments in Nebraska education. Our children are falling behind in many areas and you have been wasting your time trying to "update" our health curriculum. It can not be called "health" as it is filled with false information concerning our human make up. Not to mention the fact that young children should not be exposed to these "standards". Please do the right thing and work on real ways to educate our children so they can learn the basics that they need.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Esther Sander

Last name *

Sander

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Linda

Last name *

Metteer

City *

Grand Island

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I have been concerned about our education system for a long time. We have relied on our government and these organizations far too long. They are destroying our kids with their ideological ideas. We need to get rid of these organizations. Our children need to be taught life skills such as reading, writing, math, how to pay bills, basic mechanical skills, addressing an envelope, writing out a check, cooking, ect. Sex education has no business in the school system, that should be left up to the parents. I think the whole school system needs cleaned out and reduced way down just like our government. Quit letting them destroy our children with their radical ideas.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Linda

Last name *

Metteer

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Karen

Last name *

Wickard

City *

Mitchell

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am a concerned grandmother of two. Our schools need to get back to the basics. You must leave the moral teaching to parents. It does not belong in the schools. I will be watching very intently on how the NE State Board of Education implements any and all curriculum. Home schooling is ALWAYS and option. Tread carefully and do what is right. Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Karen

Last name *

Wickard

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Ziemer

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We the parents of Nebraska, will not tolerate schools, school boards, and state boards of education treating us like we are the enemy. We entrust our children to the public school system to teach them to read, write, learn about science, history (and not the fake woke version), and math. The boundaries have been cross recently and for some reason the public education system feels like they should have a say in more. That they know better than the parents. WRONG. Put yourself back in check and focus on improving proficiency in the schools and leave the rest to parents. In case you haven't notice we will come for your seats and will continue to. The days of being pushed around are over and we see you now and will continue to advocate for our children and what WE THE PARENTS WANT TAUGHT. SCRAP THE STANDARDS AND MOVE ON.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Ziemer

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cyndi

Last name *

Splear

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As parents/ grandparents of PS students, we are concerned with the states low performance and teasing scores.

We need the board to focus on core competencies , and leave subjects outside of their regulated mandate to local schools.

Too much time is wasted on proposing activist group supported(Planned Parenthood) standards parents strongly object to. Unscientific and medically inaccurate health/ sex education are not going to boost core learning skills.

We need our State Boards focus to be on providing more effective leadership. Focus on the poor student performance, focus on staff shortages, focus on student safety in these turbulent times, focus on the NED actions.

We are watching , engaged, and ready to assist in decision making. Theses are OUR children.

Thank you.

Cyndi Splear.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Cyndi

Last name *

Splear

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Viktoriya

Last name *

Korol

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I do NOT SUPPORT the unscientific and medically inaccurate health and sex education standards for our children that are being proposed and pushed in for the future of our children! Let Our children have the NORMAL childhood and school years that we all had when their was No non needed teachings in school . Those where the most amazing time of childhood!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Viktoriya

Last name *

Korol

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Maureen

Last name *

Johnson

City *

Omaha

State *

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am very concerned about the low scores and lack of focus on these by the school boards - State and local ! Please spend your time addressing a curriculum to improve these and stop your obsession with health and sex education and CRT!

Return discipline to our schools so teachers can teach and students can learn!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Maureen

Last name *

Johnson

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

carol

Last name *

allen

City *

pender

State *

ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As you prepare for the next monthly meeting I wanted to write again to express my concern and the fact that I am continue watching the activities of SBOE. I continue to be very concerned with the low testing and performance scores of our Nebraskan students. I know many teachers are doing the best they can with the situations they are in. The Nebraska State Board of Education needs to focus on core competencies, and leave subjects outside of their legislated mandate to local schools. This is IMPORTANT

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Carol

Last name *

Allen

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Donna

Last name *

Streeter

City *

Ord

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I continue to be very concerned with our Nebraska students low performance scores in math and reading. This is not the teachers fault, but instead poor leadership. We need the Nebraska State Board of Education to focus on core competencies, and leave subjects outside of their legislated mandate to local schools. Why is there so much concern over sexual 'education' and so little over improving our students abilities to succeed in core subjects? NSBE needs to listen to the parents; the board is elected and works for us. Get off the liberal left social indoctrination and politics, and work instead to improve our student abilities to succeed as adults in the workplace. They will be paying for your social security someday; think about that.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Donna

Last name *

Streeter

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cynthia

Last name *

Nielsen

City *

Giltner

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

To Nebraska Department of Education;

We continue to be very concerned with our low testing and performance scores of our Nebraskan students. We know many teachers are doing the best they can with the situations they are in. We want the Nebraska State Board of Education to focus on core competencies, and leave subjects outside of your legislated mandate to our local schools.

It continues to be shocking, the amount of time wasted in proposing the unscientific and medically inaccurate health and sex education standards, written by activist groups and supported by Planned Parenthood.

We are very concerned about the performance of the state board, the actions of the NDE staff, schools across the state facing turmoil/teacher shortages, and the poor performance of our students. Teachers, students, parents, and Nebraskans deserve better and more effective leadership.

Nebraskan children need to be educated properly, so they can make intelligent decisions, on their own, as they grow. Keep activist groups out.

Education should start with reading, writing, math, and proper English literature. Then allow sports, life skills, music, art.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Cynthia

Last name *

Nielsen

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Linelle

Last name *

Kelley

City *

Inman

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I would ask that students not be taught the sex education material. Spend more time on the basics - math, science, English, reading, Writing.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Linelle

Last name *

Kelley

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Connie

Last name *

Lamp

City *

PAPILLION

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

My husband and I are very concerned about the low testing scores and performance of our public schools students. We have lived in Nebraska most of our lives and have never seen such low scores and low morale. We see how more emphasis seems to be placed on sex education and gender identity than on the math, science, and basics that schools should be teaching. We are watching closely and will be attending school board meetings and your meetings to insure our grandchildren are not being taught things that only parents should be teaching and quite honestly that go against our religious beliefs. It is no wonder many people are looking at home schooling and private schools!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Connie

Last name *

Lamp

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kaila

Last name *

Mailahn

City *

Denton

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a Nebraska tax payer, I want to express my grave concern with the push by the Nebraska State Board of Education to push unscientific and medically inaccurate health and sex education standards written by activist groups instead of following accurate medical information. Furthermore, more emphasis needs to be put on educational performance instead of sex education. Nebraska has low testing and performance scores. We need to focus more on foundational education instead of sex education. Local schools should decide what is best for students. Please listen to the local voice and voice of the Nebraska people instead of liberal activist groups that have special interest instead of the interest of our children. Our students and our community deserve better.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kaila

Last name *

Mailahn

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

.....

Last name *

.....

City *

.....

State *

.....

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

.....

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

.....

Last name *

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Becky

Last name *

Wilkins

City *

Kearney

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am very concerned with the low testing and performance scores of our Nebraskan students. I know many teachers are doing the best they can with the situations they are in. Nebraska State Board of Education needs to focus on core competencies, and leave subjects outside of their legislated mandate to local schools.

I continue to be shocked by, the amount of time wasted in proposing the unscientific and medically inaccurate health and sex education standards written by activist groups and supported by Planned Parenthood.

Drop those proposals!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Rebecca

Last name *

Wilkins

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Ingrid

Last name *

Lott

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I have looked over the current data available and believe it is in the best interest of our students that their time spent on education should solely emphasize the basic core competencies. It appears that there is no time to waste. Please keep this in mind as our children's success is ultimately our success.

Respectfully,

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Ingrid

Last name *

Lott

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Colleen

Last name *

Corey

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please do not waste your time in proposing the unscientific and medically inaccurate health and sex education standards written by activist groups. Please make the teacher's jobs easier and let them concentrate on real education like math, science, reading and writing. The students are behind due to covid and are sick of politics. Let them be kids and learn the same subjects we learned years ago and let the parents handle any sex education. thank you

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Colleen

Last name *

Corey

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Gerald & Pamela

Last name *

Lammers

City *

Pleasanton

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are informing you that we are still concerned, engaged and watching closely.

Our concerns include time wasted in proposing unscientific and medically inaccurate health and sex education standards rather than addressing low testing and performance scores by students, as well as teacher shortages.

There are also concerns with performance of the state board and its leadership, along with actions of NDE staff.

Students, parents, teachers and Nebraskans deserve better and more effective leadership., so we would request you act accordingly.

Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Gerald & Pamela

Last name *

Lammers

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kathy

Last name *

Holkeboer

City *

Bellevue

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

At the end of Nebraska Revised Statute 79-318, this statement appears: "None of the duties prescribed in this section shall prevent the board from exercising such other duties as in its judgment may be necessary for the proper and legal exercise of its obligations." Are we (the tax-paying public) to assume that is your excuse for going down a bunny trail away from providing for quality education in core subjects like Math, Science, Social Studies and Language skills? What do the test scores reveal about what focus the SBOE should take? According to <https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=62>, though Nebraska ranks slightly higher than the national average, that national average is disgusting! On a scale of 0-500, 244 (4 above national average) is LESS than 50%. Those stats are before the pandemic! Confusing children with sexuality issues will hinder, not improve academic scores.

Section 5 (d) says the SBOE, through the Commissioner and staff, are supposed to institute a statewide system of testing to determine the degree of achievement and accomplishment. Those should be verifiable standards, not emotional opinions.

If a young woman were to exhibit eating disorders, where she identified as fat, and the lack of nutrition contributed to decreasing her academic performance, would the solution be to put her on a low-calorie diet?? Of course not - and the parents should be included in getting her the correct kind of help. Similarly, students suffering from gender dysphoria should not be put on a lowering hormones diet.

Please get back to work on academics.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kathy

Last name *

Holkeboer

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Shayla

Last name *

Stutzman

City *

Dorchester

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Well here we are again, having to stand up and defend the people of NE who voted you into office to represent them. However you are continuing to support your own agenda of indoctrinating our children to your beliefs, not the beliefs of over 90% of the NE voters! When is this going to end?

What more can the people say?

Yes our country is in a very trying time. Of course it is! We, as a country have turned our backs on God and now we are now experiencing what happens when we don't have God in our nation.

I don't even know what else to say to you people! Please come to your senses, stop catering to special interest groups, vote for the voices of the majority and not the minority of people. And help our students, educational system and nation by bringing God back into our society! Love always wins over hatred!!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Shayla

Last name *

Stutzman

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Emma

Last name *

Barborka

City *

Lincoln

State *

NA

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am STILL concerned and I am engaged and watching very closely!

I continue to be very concerned with our low testing and performance scores of our Nebraskan students. We know many teachers are doing the best they can with the situations they are in. We need the Nebraska State Board of Education to focus on core competencies, and leave subjects outside of their legislated mandate to local schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Emma

Last name *

Barborka

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Marvin

Last name *

Tiffany

City *

York

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Education in all grades should be geared to help the child learn the basic subjects: Math, English, History and any other basic subject needed for advancement into the next grades, college and prep. for the workforce.

Nothing should be taught in the classroom as it relates to sexual situations except the basic sex education.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Marvin

Last name *

Tiffany

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Sandra

Last name *

Rucilez

City *

Kearney

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

This is getting ridiculous.
Leave or do the right thing!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Sandra

Last name *

Rucilez

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Bernie

Last name *

Gutschewski

City *

Omaha

State *

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I request that you permanently ban the health and sex standards. Focus on the basics of education for our children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Bernie

Last name *

Gutschewski

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Elissa

Last name *

Martin

City *

Lexington

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I would like to see the Nebraska state board of education withdraw membership from then national association of school boards.

Also, I would like to know if there has been discussion on ways to fund our local districts with less reliance (ideally no reliance) on federal funding. I'm very concerned by the Biden administration's push for allowing transgender boy students into girls restrooms and vice versa; my understanding is that refusal to allow this may result in pulling federal funds from these schools. How will Nebraska address this issue?

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Elissa

Last name *

Martin

This form was created inside of NE-Dept Of Education.

Google Forms

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

Persons may address the Board for public comment purposes by written submission in lieu of live testimony. Such written submissions must be provided 24 hours in advance to the start of the public meeting where public comment is scheduled, or by close of business of the Thursday prior to any meeting scheduled for a Monday, and is limited to 750 words. Written public comments submitted in accordance with these requirements will be provided to the Board members and become part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

Individuals who submit written public comment for a given meeting should not plan to speak before the Board in live testimony at that month's meeting.

Individuals may submit only one written public comment entry per month. Multiple submissions will not be accepted.

Submissions must include your complete first and last name, city and state. You will also be required to electronically sign the submission. This information will be included with your comments.

Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Amanda

Last name *

Ripley

City *

Lincoln

State *

nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Again, I am asking you (along with thousands of other parents) to permanently scrap / get rid of the health standards that you supposedly shelved. The concerned parents have lost all faith in believing any of your attempts to appease us by "shelving the standards". We all believe you will bring them back and eventually pass them. You have heard multiple times what our concerns are - the controversial parts of the health standards. We ask that you get rid of the health standards. Nebraska has horrible test scores for academics. You need to focus on improving those. You need to focus on recruiting and retaining excellent teachers (who are leaving in droves). Educators are ready to walk away from their dream jobs because you are trying to force them to teach controversial health standards that should be left to the local schools or the home. Not mandated by the state. Emails that have been obtained from your board members show that you as a board of education cannot be trusted. These comments are not directed to Kirk Penner, the sole board member with a conscience who is dedicated to protecting the children of Nebraska.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Amanda

Last name *

Ripley

This form was created inside of NE-Dept Of Education.

Google Forms

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Teresa

Last name *

Carey

City *

Wilcox

State *

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please STOP THE PUSH FOR CSE, CRT & SEL IN THOSE AREAS.

PERMANENTLY SCRAP THE STANDARDS.

STICK TO TEACHING, READING, MATH, WRITING AND HISTORY AS IT HAPPENED!!!!

Thank you for your time!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Teress

Last name *

Carey

This form was created inside of NE-Dept Of Education.

Google Forms

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment June 2022

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

Persons may address the Board for public comment purposes by written submission in lieu of live testimony. Such written submissions must be provided 24 hours in advance to the start of the public meeting where public comment is scheduled, or by close of business of the Thursday prior to any meeting scheduled for a Monday, and is limited to 750 words. Written public comments submitted in accordance with these requirements will be provided to the Board members and become part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

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Submissions must include your complete first and last name, city and state. You will also be required to electronically sign the submission. This information will be included with your comments.

Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Merlyn

Last name *

Bartels

City *

Upland

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Good Morning,

I am writing to say thank you for your time serving in this capacity. I would like to ask that you discontinue the use of CSE and CRT in the education of our children. This is something that parents need to teach daily as the opportunities present themselves. This should be a matter best left in the hands of the parents.

Children are sent to school to obtain an education not an indoctrination. I would ask why the scores for the various subjects such as math, science and language are not higher than they are. I have seen the results for various testings and am very disappointed at the numbers represented. When less than half our graduates can not read proficiently or perform basic math there is a major problem. They are pushed through the system because every child must move on and not be left behind.

Every child should be educated and if it takes longer for some to grasp the concepts they should have that time and instruction. Their future is destroyed if they cannot read at an acceptable level. They cannot be employed in jobs with chances of advancement and thus are left to live at poverty level or below. Simply lowering the bar does not benefit anyone. We need education to teach how to think and how to solve problems. We can spend all the money in the world on education but if we can't teach them to read or think for themselves we have lost the battle.

I encourage you to get back to the basics and raise the bar so the U.S. citizens do not need to take a back seat to anyone and can compete on a higher level in the global society. Get back to the basics.

Sincerely,

Merlyn Bartels

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Merlyn

Last name *

Bartels

This form was created inside of NE-Dept Of Education.

Google Forms



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 13, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Brad Dirksen, Administrator, Accreditation, Accountability and Program Approval
Kelly Heineke, Director, Educator Preparation Program Approval

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Provide update on State Board of Education appointed vacancies to the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education (NCTE).

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: NCTE is an advisory council to the State Board of Education, comprised of individuals from higher education, school governance, and teachers; created by the Board pursuant to Nebraska Revised State Statutes 79-318(9) and 79-808. The purpose of NCTE is to act as an advisory body to the State Board of Education regarding standards for the approval educator preparation programs and educator certification (See NCTE Organizational polices for more specific details).

There are currently two vacancies on the NCTE that would be appointed by the State Board of Education. Both vacancies are for teachers, one is a voting member vacancy, and the other is an alternate member vacancy.

Please submit any nominations to fill the vacancies by July 1, 2022 . The application for Membership on State Board of Education Committees is included in the board meeting materials. Questions and comments can be directed to Kelly Heineke, at Kelly.heineke@nebraska.gov tel: 402.314.4432. The Board will be asked to approve a selection during the August 2022 Board meeting.

A list of incumbents, including terms and expiration dates, the representation requirements each incumbent satisfies, and the State Board of Education District in which each incumbent resides can be found on the attached NCTE 2021-2022 Directory document.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: N/A

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER



TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117



P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987



education.ne.gov



Memo

To: Nebraska State Board of Education
From: The Nebraska Department of Education
CC:
Date: 5/10/2022

Re: Nebraska Council on Teacher Education Vacancies

Notice of Vacancy

Per Administrative Memorandum 804, the NDE must provide the Nebraska State Board of Education with notification of vacancies on State Board of Education appointed committees, councils, and consortiums, and request Board approval of nominees to fill those vacancies.

The name of the committee, council, or consortium: The Nebraska Council on Teacher Education

A citation of the authority under which the committee, council, or consortium was or is to be established: Nebraska R.R.S. 79-808(3)

The purpose of the committee, council, or consortium as identified in statute, regulation, or by the creating authority. This should be supplemented with additional explanation if the purpose identified is not fully descriptive: As an advisory body to the State Board of Education (Board), NCTE will develop and recommend for State Board approval and adoption: Standards relating to state approval of higher education institutions providing teacher, and/or administrative preparatory programs; and programs leading to a special services certificate. Standards relating to admission into and retention in an approved professional education program leading to teacher, administrative, or special services certification. Standards relating to the issuance of teacher, administrative, and special

services certificates. Standards relating to certification endorsements. Standards relating to the relationships of Nebraska teacher, administrator, and special services certification with other states and national bodies.

Further, NCTE members will, at the request of the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), and pursuant to NDE regulations, participate in educator program approval reviews and associated campus visits to those institutions seeking approval for their programs leading to teacher, administrative, and/or special services certification and endorsements, and may recommend approval or non-approval of those programs in compliance with regulations adopted by the State for such purposes.

Additionally, NCTE, through its regular meetings, will provide a forum where representatives of educator preparation, practicing educators, the Nebraska Department of Education, and other educator preparation and certification stakeholders can meet and discuss those issues affecting professional preparation, and seek solutions to problems impacting on the quality of preparation of certified professionals in school settings. The goal of the college approval and professional certification process is to ensure the citizens of Nebraska, in particular, and citizens of the United States, in general, that the teachers and administrators in this state are well qualified and meet all state laws governing certification.

A list of categories of required representation: Membership shall include equal representation of Higher Education, School Governance, and Teachers.

A list of incumbents, including terms and expiration dates, the representation requirement each incumbent satisfies, and the State Board of Education District in which each incumbent resides: See attached NCTE membership roster.

The date the Board will be asked to approve a selection: August 5, 2022

1.2.7 A request that the members of the State Board of Education nominate individuals who could fill the vacancy. Nominations should be provided to the Commissioner of Education; See attached request.

1.2.8 A copy of the application for membership form; See attached application form.

1.2.9 The name, address and phone number of the appropriate NDE contact person. Kelly Heineke, 500 S. 84th Street, Lincoln NE, 68510, 402. 314.4432

Nebraska State Board of Education:

May 10, 2022

This is a request for the Nebraska State Board of Education to nominate individuals to fill vacancies on the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education. There are two vacancies in the State Board Appointed Teachers Group, one voting member vacancy and one alternate member vacancy. Nominations should be provided to the Commissioner of Education, using the attached application form by July 1, 2022.

Please reach out to me with any questions at Kelly.heineke@nebraska.gov

Thank you-

Kelly Heineke

Director Educator Preparation Program Approval

NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION 2022-2023 MEMBERSHIP

– State Board Approved

❖ Indicates members with NCATE Training

⌘ Indicates members with CAEP training

*New NCTE Members

HIGHER EDUCATION

Bellevue University

Susan Alford (2023)
1000 Galvin Road South
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-557-7131
salford@bellevue.edu

Bellevue University

Erin McDonnell-Jones *alternate* (2023)
1000 Galvin Road South
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-557-7582
emcdonnelljones@bellevue.edu

Chadron State College

Irasema Ortega (2023)
1000 Main St.
Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-6364
iortega@csc.edu

Chadron State College

Adam Fette *alternate* (2023)
1000 Main St.
Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-6469
afette@csc.edu

College of Saint Mary

TBD
7000 Mercy Rd.
Omaha, NE 68106

College of Saint Mary

TBD
7000 Mercy Rd.
Omaha, NE 68106

Concordia University

Lorinda Sankey (2023)
800 N. Columbia
Seward, NE 68434
402-643-7385
Lorinda.Sankey@cune.edu

Concordia University

TBD
800 N. Columbia
Seward, NE 68434

Creighton University

Tim Cook (2023) - D4
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178
402-280-2561
timothycook@creighton.edu

Creighton University

April Buschelman *alternate* (2023)
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178
402-280-3583
aprilbuschelman@creighton.edu

HIGHER EDUCATION (continued)

Doane University

⌘Tim Frey (2023)
1014 Boswell
Crete, NE 68333
402-826-8648 (work)
timothy.frey@doane.edu

Doane University

Emily Griesch *alternate* (2023)
1014 Boswell
Crete, NE 68333
402-826-8538 (work)
emily.griesch@doane.edu

Hastings College

Darci Karr (2023)
710 N. Turner Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901
402-461-7304 (office)
dkarr@hastings.edu

Hastings College

❖⌘Kass Rempp *alternate* (2023)
710 N. Turner Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901
402-461-7307 (work)
krempp@hastings.edu

Midland University

Mary Ritzdorf (2023)
900 North Clarkson
Anderson 422A
Fremont, NE 68025
402-941-6400 (office)
ritzdorf@midlandu.edu

Midland University

George Conrad *alternate* (2023)
900 North Clarkson
Anderson 420
Fremont, NE 68025
402-618-1484 (cell)
conrad@midlandu.edu

Nebraska Wesleyan University

*Antwan Wilson (2023)
5000 St. Paul Ave.
Lincoln, NE 68504
402-465-2309
awilson@nebrwesleyan.edu

Nebraska Wesleyan University

Diane Mickey *alternate* (2023)
5000 St. Paul Ave.
Lincoln, NE 68504
402-465-2308
dmickey@NebrWesleyan.edu

Peru State College

Dwayne Chism (2023)
P.O. Box 10
Peru, NE 68421
402-872-2244 (office)
dchism@peru.edu

Peru State College

Stephanie Holmes *alternate* (2023)
P.O. Box 10
Peru, NE 68421
402-872-2399 (office)
sholmes@peru.edu

Union College

Peter Adams (2023)
3800 South 48th St.
Dick Building 406-A
Lincoln, NE 68506
402-486-2600 ext. 2173
peter.adams@ucollege.edu

Union College

Susan Byers *alternate* (2023)
3800 South 48th St.
Dick Building 403-E
Lincoln, NE 68506
402-486-2522 ext. 2158
susan.byers@ucollege.edu

HIGHER EDUCATION (continued)

University of NE - Kearney

Jenny Jansky (2023)
College of Education, C128
1615 W. 24th
Kearney, NE 68849
308-865-8266 (office)
janskyjl@unk.edu

University of NE - Lincoln

⌘Sara Skretta (2023)
116 Henzlik Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588-0355
402-472-8626 (office)
sskretta2@unl.edu

University of NE - Omaha

⌘Kris Swain (2023)
College of Education, Roskens Hall
6005 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68182-0163
402-554-3119 (office)
kswain@unomaha.edu

Wayne State College

Nick Shudak (2023)
Benthack Hall 111B
1111 Main St.
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-7164
nishuda1@wsc.edu

York College

⌘Erin DeHart (2023)
Middlebrook Hall
1125 E. 8th
York, NE 68467
402-363-5684 (office)
edehart@york.edu

University of NE – Kearney

Chandra Diaz *alternate* (2023)
College of Education, B151
1615 W. 24th
Kearney, NE 68849
308-865-8930 (office)
diazcc@unk.edu

University of NE - Lincoln

Guy Trainin *alternate* (2023)
44A Henzlik Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588-0355
402-472-2231
gtrainin2@unl.edu

University of NE - Omaha

Kathy Danielson *alternate* (2023)
College of Education, Roskens Hall
6005 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68182-0163
402-554-2218 (office)
kdanielson@unomaha.edu

Wayne State College

Brook Jech *alternate* (2023)
Benthack Hall 111D
1111 Main St.
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-7373
brjech1@wsc.edu

York College

Sarah Van Gomple *alternate* (2023)
Middlebrook Hall
1125 E. 8th
York, NE 68467
402-363-5691
smvangomple@york.edu

NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

Paul Illich (2023)
Southeast Community College
8800 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68520
402-471-3333
pillich@southeast.edu

Courtney Wittstruck, *alternate* (2025)
Nebraska Community College Association
1320 Lincoln Mall, Suite 9
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-471-4685
cwittstruck@nccaneb.org

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

Dana Blakely (2023)
1204 S. 99 St.
Omaha, NE 68124
402-598-0816
blakely.dana@westside66.net

Lisa Wagner (2024)
1802 10th Road
Archer, NE 68816
308-940-0228
lisa.wagner@centralcityps.org

Stephanie Summers, *alternate* (2025)
580 G Street
David City, NE 68632
402-367-7811
meteachmath@yahoo.com

NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON AMERICAN PRIVATE EDUCATION

Vickie K. Kauffold - (2024)
Superintendent of Schools
Catholic Schools Office
2222 N. 111th St.
Omaha, NE 68164-3817
402-557-5600 Ext. 2002
vkkauffold@archomaha.org

Bob Ziegler, *alternate* (2025)
Superintendent of Schools
Nebraska District Lutheran Schools
152 S. Columbia Ave. – P.O. Box 407
Seward, NE 68434
1-888-643-2961, Ext. 1010
bobz@ndlcms.org

NEBRASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

John Schwartz (2024)
Norris School District 160
25211 South 68th
Firth, NE 68358
402-791-0000
john.schwartz@nsdtitans.org

Chad Boyer – (2023)
Wisner Pilger Public Schools
PO Box 580
Wisner, NE 68791
402-529-3249 (office)
cboyer@igators.org

NEBRASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (continued)

Jason Harris (2023)
Columbus Public Schools
2508 27th St.
Columbus, NE 68601
402-563-7000 (office)
harrisj@discoverers.org

Kraig Lofquist (2023)
Ex. Director - ESUCC
6949 S. 110th St.
La Vista, NE 68128
402-597-4915 (work)
klofquist@esucc.org

Joshua McDowell (2023)
Crete Public Schools
920 Linden Ave.
Crete, NE 68333
402-826-5855
joshua.mcdowell@creteschools.org

Sharra Smith (2025)
Director of Personnel
Bellevue Public Schools
2600 Arboretum Drive
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-293-4032 (work)
sharra.smith@bpsne.net

Jerry Beach *alternate* (2025)
11720 So. 110th Ave.
Papillion, NE 68046
402-709-2735
beachsj@hotmail.com

Kami Jessop *alternate* (2023)
Westside Community Schools
909 S. 76th St.
Omaha, NE 68114
402-390-2110
jessop.kami@westside66.net

Mark Lenihan (2023)
Wayne Community Schools
611 W. 7th St.
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-3150 (office)
malenih1@waynebluedevils.org

Dawn Lewis (2023)
Arlington Public Schools
P.O. Box 580
Arlington, NE 68002
402-478-4173
dawn.lewis@apseagles.org

Kim Saum-Mills (2023)
Millard Public Schools
5606 S. 147th St.
Omaha, NE 68137
402-715-8418
ksaummills@mpsomaha.org

Cory Worrell (2024)
Waverly School District 145
14511 Heywood
P.O. Box 426
Waverly, NE 68462
402-786-2321
cory.worrell@district145.org

Josh Fields *alternate* (2023)
Seward Public Schools
410 South St.
Seward, NE 68434
402-643-2941
josh.fields@sewardschools.org

Mitch Kubicek *alternate* (2024)
Milford Public Schools
724 238th Road
Milford, NE 68405
402-641-3627
mkubicek@milfordpublicschools.org

NEBRASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (continued)

Nicole Regan *alternate* (2023)
Lincoln Public Schools
5905 O St.
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-436-1576
nregan@lps.org

*Mitch Rolling (2026) - *alternate*
Millard Public Schools
5606 S. 147th
Omaha, NE 68137
402-715-8200
msmolling@mpsomaha.org

TEACHERS State Board Appointed

Tanishia Jacobs (2024)
Bellevue Public Schools
2600 Arboretum Drive
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-293-4510 (work)
402-981-7434 (Home)
butlertanishia@gmail.com

TBD - *voting*

TBD - *alternate*

NEBRASKA STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

❖ Sarah Brown (2024)
1540 Forest (Home)
Crete, NE 68333
402-826-2698 (home)
travelersarah@hotmail.com

Megan Simsic (2026)
Lincoln Public Schools
8961 Broken Spoke Drive
Lincoln, NE 68507
402-314-7363
msimsic@nebr.rr.com

❖ Diana Casey (2025)
Omaha Public Schools
1524 Cuming Street, #414
Omaha, NE 68102
402-596-1668 (home)
531-299-1480 (school)
diana.casey@ops.org

Marsha Edquist (2022)
14820 Mary Street
Omaha, NE 68116
402-660-4282
maedquist@cox.net

NEBRASKA STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (continued)

Devin Garcia (2023)
P.O. Box 115
Diller, NE 68342
402-239-6551
devin.garcia307@gmail.com

Pat Ludeke (2022)
Fremont Public Schools
515 E. 12th St.
Fremont, NE 68025
402-727-3164 (work)
402-206-3303 (cell)
pludeke@gmail.com

Lee Perez (2025)
1502 Pasadena Ave.
Omaha, NE 68107-2114
402-301-1252
lee.perez@ops.org
leemartinperez@gmail.com

Dashiell Rohan (2025)
441 Frank St.
Harrison, NE 69346
308-668-2177
drohan00@hotmail.com

Edward Ventura (2024)
Omaha Public Schools
7800 S. 25th St.
Omaha, NE 68147-2125
531-299-1220 (work)
402-210-1655 (cell)
edward.ventura@ops.org
venturaomaha@gmail.com

Susan Loney (2022)
4107 N. 162nd Ave.
Omaha, NE 68116-2966
402-898-1697 (work)
402-660-6732 (cell)
susan.loney@ops.org

❖ Donna Moss (2023)
13410 South 35th Ave.
Bellevue, NE 68123
402-670-1611 (cell)
donna jean.moss@gmail.com

❖ ☞ Caroline Rice (2023)
18202 Nicholas Rd.
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
402-297-4263 (cell)
carolinerice@hotmail.com

Susan Stake (2023)
6615 Shenandoah Ct.
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-786-2348 (work)
204-484-6927 (home)
susan.stake@district145.org

NEBRASKA STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (continued)

Doreen Jankovich *alternate* (2023)
509 South 51st Ave.
Omaha, NE 68106
402-517-8949 (cell)
doreen.jankovich@gmail.com

Jenni Benson – *alternate* (2026)
402-475-7611
jenni.benson@nsea.org

Sarah Dragon - *alternate* (2026)
Omaha Public Schools
4208 S. 36th St.
Omaha, NE- 68107
402-612-1736
sarah.dragon@yahoo.com

Shannon Heng – *alternate* (2026)
Omaha Public Schools
216 Elm St.
Louisville, NE 68037
402-541-2219 – (cell)
shannon.heng@outlook.com

Fran Marymee *alternate* (2023)
5325 W. Idlewilde Dr.
Hastings, NE 68901
402-984-7800
wallf7@gmail.com

Brittney Hodges-Bolkovac *alternate* (2026)
Lincoln Public Schools
2411 NW 53rd
Lincoln, NE 68524
402-730-0128
bhodges_2004@yahoo.com

Renae Noble - *alternate* (2026)
Chadron Public Schools
710 Mears Street
Chadron, NE 69337
308.432.0707 (work)
renae.noble@chadronschools.net

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Brad Dirksen (2023)
Nebraska Dept. of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-430-0267
brad.dirksen@nebraska.gov

Clayton Waddle *alternate* (2023)
Nebraska Department of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-0738
clayton.waddle@nebraska.gov

Kelly Heineke (2023)
Nebraska Dept of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-314-4432
kelly.heineke@nebraska.gov

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
ON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEES, COUNCILS, AND CONSORTIUMS**

The purpose of this form is to obtain general information for use in appointing members of committees, councils, and consortiums approved by the State Board of Education. If you have recently prepared a biography or resume, please attach it to this form.

COMMITTEE, COUNCIL, OR CONSORTIUM

APPOINTMENT DESIRED: Nebraska Council on Teacher Education (NCTE)

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME _____ (first) _____ (middle initial) _____ (last)

RESIDENCE _____ (street) _____ (city) _____ (zip) _____ (county)

BUSINESS/SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ (street) _____ (city) _____ (zip)

TELEPHONE _____ (residence) _____ (business/school)

Email Address: _____ Occupation: _____

Do you hold a current Nebraska teaching certificate? yes no

If the box at the left is checked, please provide the following information, check the category(ies) which you can represent, and complete pages 2 and 3 of this form. The legislation authorizing creation of this council or committee directs that the membership reflect the diversity of the population of the state with regard to race, ethnicity, gender, and disability characteristics. Information provided in this section will assist our staff and the State Board in making selections.

Gender: male female Racial/Ethnic background: _____

Disability: _____

Check category(ies) which you can represent:

Teachers:	<input type="checkbox"/> Elementary	<input type="checkbox"/> Parents/Patrons
	<input type="checkbox"/> Middle school/Junior high	<input type="checkbox"/> Organizations serving young children
	<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/> Local boards of education
	<input type="checkbox"/> Postsecondary	<input type="checkbox"/> Community-based organizations
	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Schools	<input type="checkbox"/> Other(s) (describe): _____

Administrators: Superintendent Principal
 Other

OR

If the box at the left is checked, please complete the attached SUPPLEMENTAL QUALIFICATIONS FORM in addition to pages 2 and 3 of this form. The legislation authorizing creation of this council or committee directs that the membership meet certain qualifications relevant to the charge of the council.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please provide additional supportive information about yourself and your experiences. Include membership of organizations related to this position, membership of any board, commission, council, or committee you have served in the past; honors or awards received; other volunteer activities.

Please explain your interest in serving on this council/committee:

EMPLOYMENT

List employment history, beginning with current experience; include volunteer activities. A resume or additional information is optional. ***If you are a parent/patron applicant, completion of this section is optional.***

EDUCATION

List schools attended (including high school); include location, dates, major field of study or degree received. ***If you are a parent/patron applicant, completion of this section is optional.***

REFERENCES

List names, addresses, and telephone numbers of at least three persons who may be contacted for references. ***If you are a parent/patron applicant, completion of this section is optional.***

Signature of applicant

Date

Return completed form by _____ to:

Marlene Beiermann, NDE
Office of Accreditation, Accountability, and Program Approval
500 So. 84th, 2nd Floor
Lincoln, NE 68510-2611
marlene.beiermann@nebraska.gov

Questions should be directed to Marlene Beiermann at 402-480-0036 or Kelly Heineke at 402-314-4432.

STATE STAFF USE ONLY

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE AND DISTRICT

RECOMMENDING STAFF PERSON

Appointment *approved* at _____ State Board of Education meeting.

Appointment *not approved* at _____ State Board of Education meeting.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 18, 2022

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Administrator and State Director Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Notification of Vacancies on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This federally required Council is composed of 30 members who serve four-year terms, (i.e., approximately one-fourth of the terms of members of SEAC expire in August of each year). Ten members completed their four-year terms in the spring of 2022, bringing the total number of member vacancies to Ten. All SEAC members are approved by the State Board of Education. Securing Board approval in August of new and reappointed members will allow adequate time to provide background information and training to new members in preparation for the first meeting in September 2022. The Office of Special Education continues to seek new SEAC members through an application process reflecting the categorical representation required by federal regulations, geographical balance based on State Board of Education districts, and the diverse population of Nebraska.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2022

ESTIMATED COST: N/A

TO: MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D.

FROM: BRYCE WILSON, DENISE THEGE

DATE: June 3, 2022

SUBJECT: MONTHLY LIST OF CONTRACTS \$10,000 TO \$50,000

RATIONALE: As stated in the Nebraska State Board of Education Policy Manual P5 the Commissioner shall provide the Board each month with a list of contracts between \$10,000 and \$50,000.

1. Contractor(s): Endacott Peetz, Timmer & Koerwitz
Contract Amount: \$20,000
Funding Source: General
Scope of Services: Serve as hearing officer.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-6/30/23
Contact Person: Brad Dirksen
2. Contractor(s): Anderson & Creager & Wittstruck
Contract Amount: \$40,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Serve as hearing officer.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-6/30/23
Contact Person: Amy Rhone
3. Contractor(s): Dennis Tegtmeier
Contract Amount: \$10,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Serve as hearing officer.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-6/30/23
Contact Person: Amy Rhone
4. Contractor(s): Dennis Tegtmeier
Contract Amount: \$10,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Serve as hearing officer.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-6/30/23
Contact Person: Zainab Rida
5. Contractor(s): Brenda Saxe
Contract Amount: \$15,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Coaching/training services.
Date of Contract: 5/15/22-5/14/23
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
6. Contractor(s): Magnolia Consulting
Contract Amount: \$14,250
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Develop/facilitate Educator Effectiveness Summit.
Date of Contract: 5/16/22-6/18/22
Contact Person: Shirley Vargas

7. Contractor(s): AHA Process
Contract Amount: \$11,780.76
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Provide trainings.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-10/31/22
Contact Person: Lindy Foley
8. Contractor(s): Terri Vontz
Contract Amount: \$41,222
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: DDS medical consultant.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-6/30/23
Contact Person: Kristi Michl
9. Contractor(s): Kelcy Sass
Contract Amount: \$49,142.52
Funding Source: General
Scope of Services: Administer Excellence in Teaching Act.
Date of Contract: 7/11/22-7/10/23
Contact Person: Shirley Vargas
10. Contractor(s): Partners for Insightful Evaluation
Contract Amount: \$36,570
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Identify and collect data.
Date of Contract: 5/15/22-5/14/23
Contact Person: Lindy Foley
11. Contractor(s): Amanda Most
Contract Amount: \$49,800
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Serve as FFA Event Coordinator.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-6/30/23
Contact Person: Katie Graham
12. Contractor(s): Nick Salestrom
Contract Amount: \$14,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Research/identify best practices.
Date of Contract: 5/23/22-12/31/22
Contact Person: Katie Graham
13. Contractor(s): Stephanie Call
Contract Amount: \$17,915
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Coordinate Migrant Binational Visiting Teacher Summer program.
Date of Contract: 5/18/22-8/31/22
Contact Person: Elizabeth Wooster
14. Contractor(s): Nancy Ingham
Contract Amount: \$47,800
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: DDS medical consultant.
Date of Contract: 7/1/22-6/30/23
Contact Person: Krysti Michl

15. Contractor(s): Dr Johanna Higgins
Contract Amount: \$21,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Serve as Project Director of ECC-EI project.
Date of Contract: 6/1/22-5/31/23
Contact Person: Amy Rhone

16. Contractor(s): UNL
Contract Amount: \$15,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Develop mobile APP
Date of Contract: 6/1/22-5/31/23
Contact Person: Amy Rhone

